

FAIRY TAIL

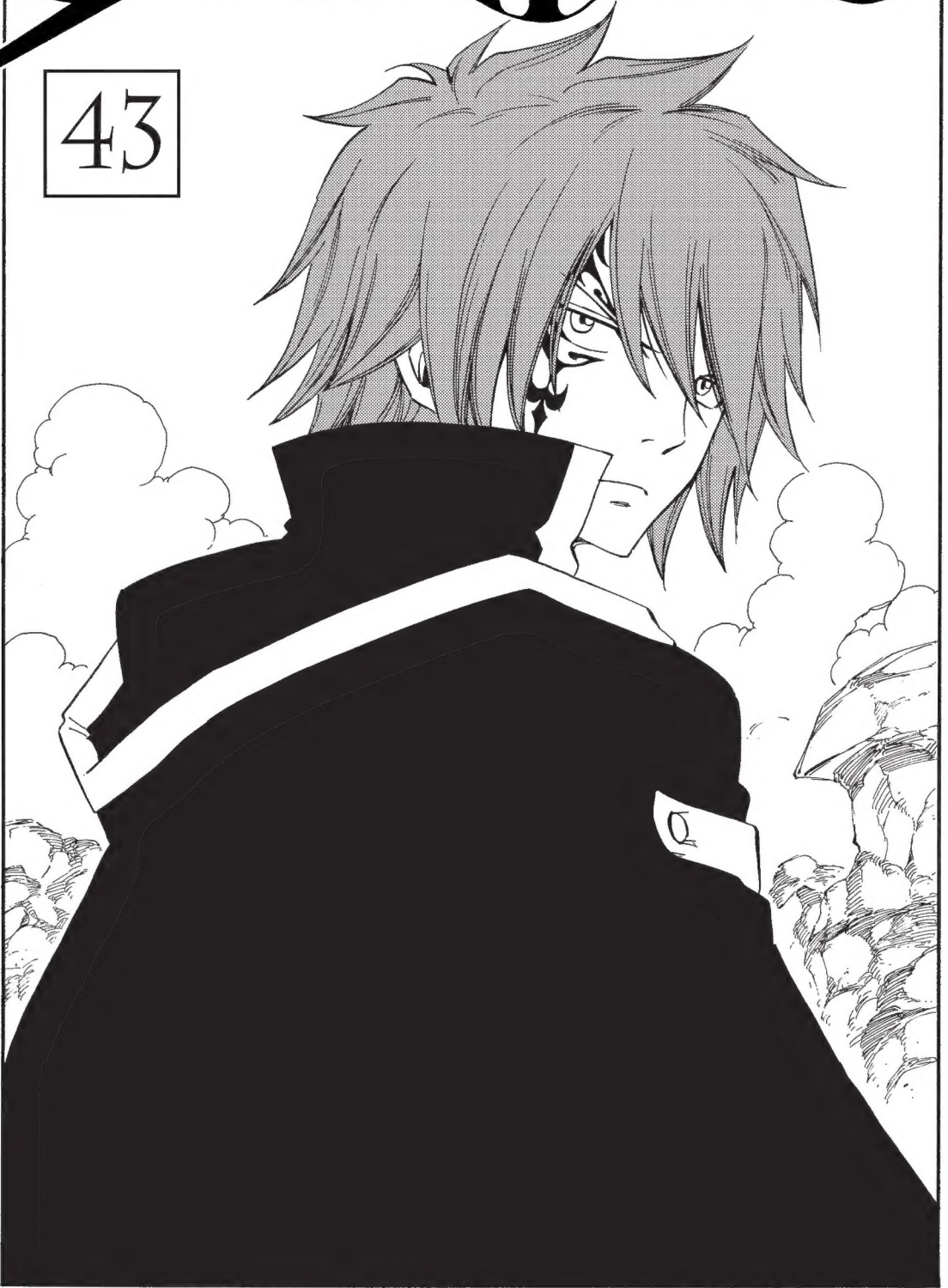
43



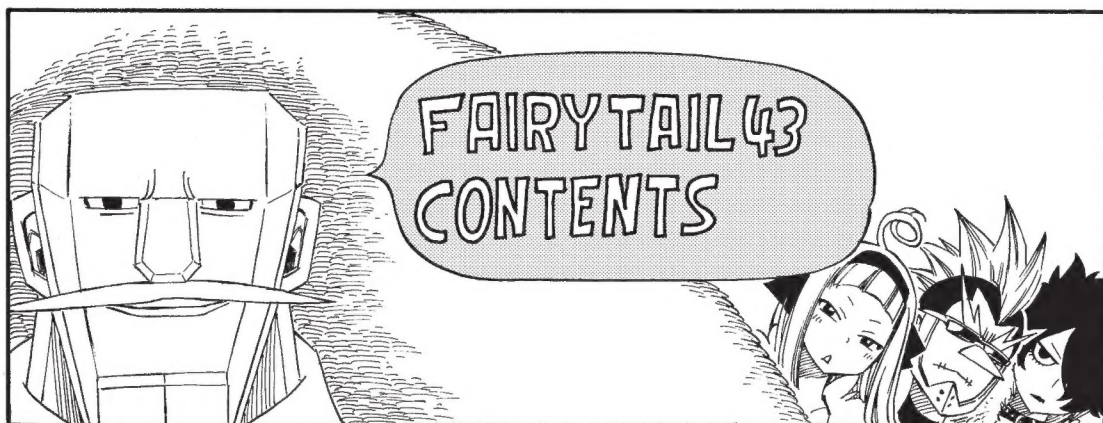
Hiro Mashima

FAIRY TAIL

43



HIRO MASHIMA



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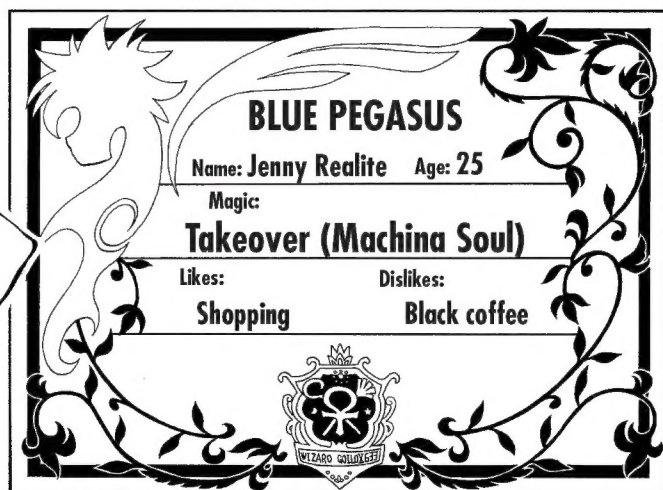
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FAIRY TAIL

Chapter 362: Natsu vs. Jackal



Remarks

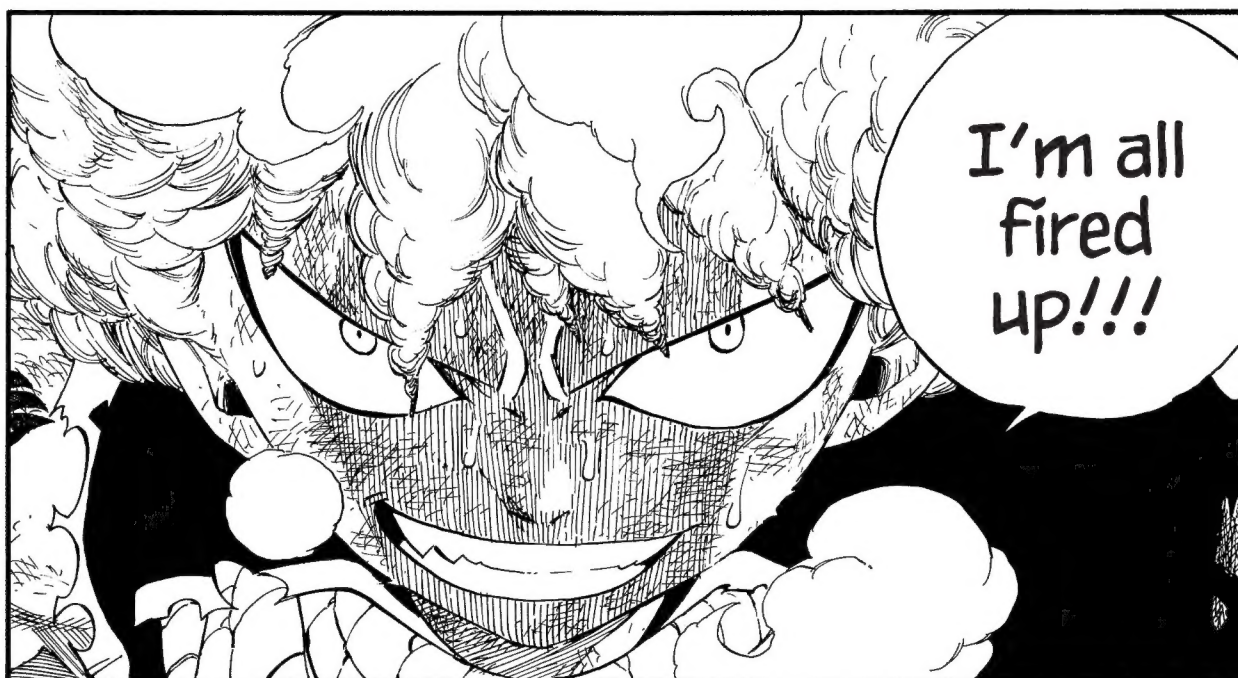
The top pinup model for Weekly Sorcerer. Seven years ago, she and Mirajane were rivals for the top model spot, and now they are both good friends and good rivals. Her magic is Machina Soul, which allows her to transform into an outfit armed with heavy weaponry. Whenever she touches a machine, she can make its power her own. She lost a bet with Mira during the Grand Magic Games and had to pose nude for Weekly Sorcerer Magazine, but when the time came, she wasn't as embarrassed about it as everyone thought she would be.



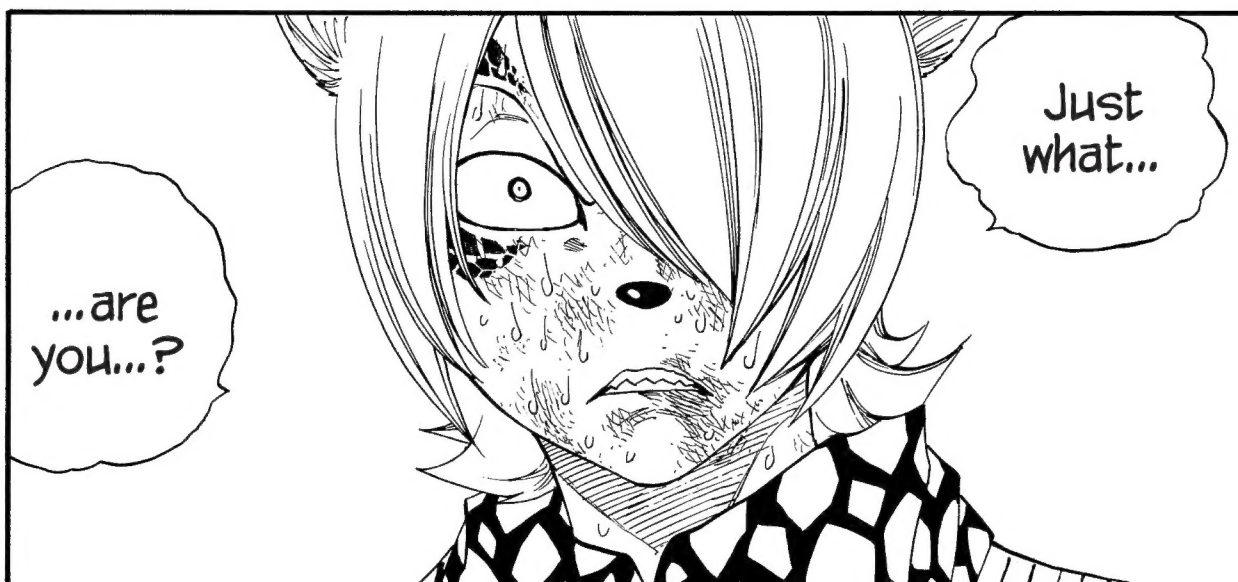
Naw!
No way!

Impossible!

Not a
chance!



I'm all
fired
up!!!



...are
you...?

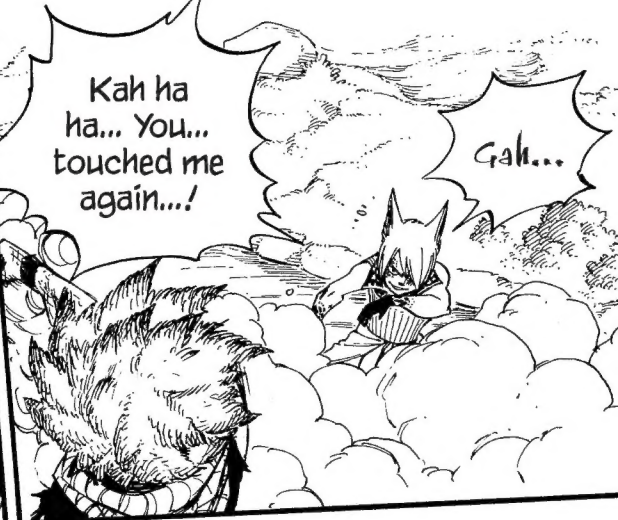
Just
what...





Ready
to go
boom
?!!

Go
on,
explode
!!!!



Kah ha
ha... You...
touched me
again...!

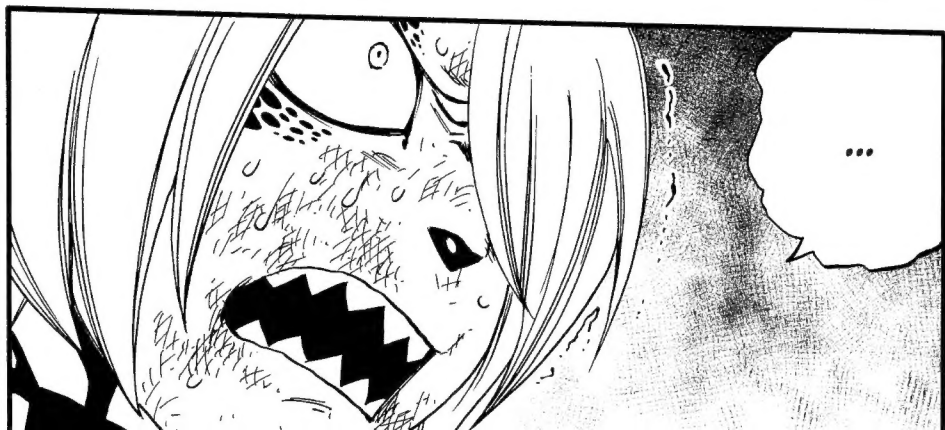
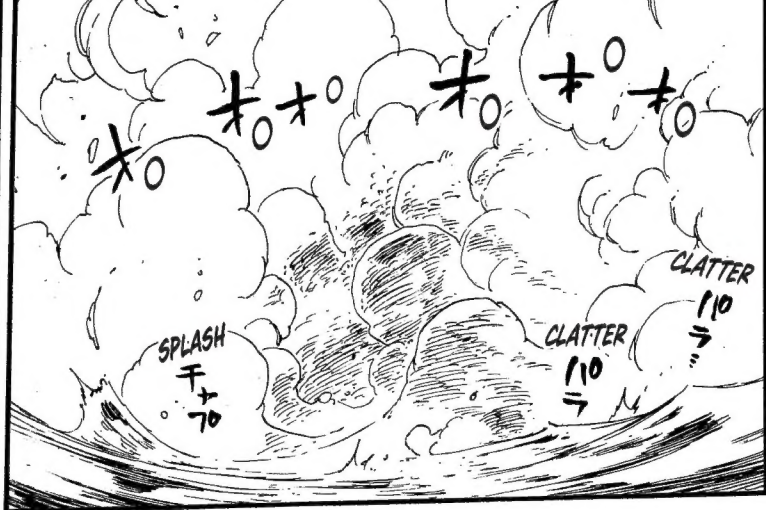
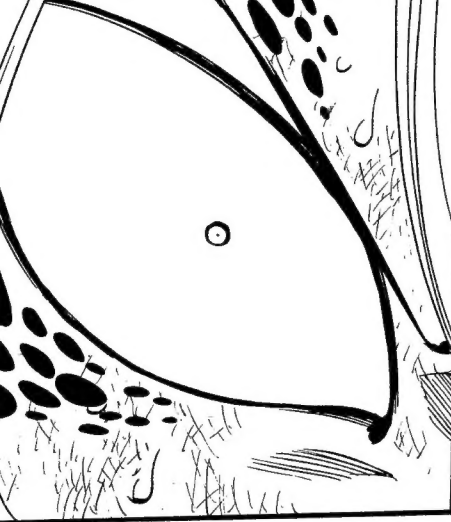
Gah...



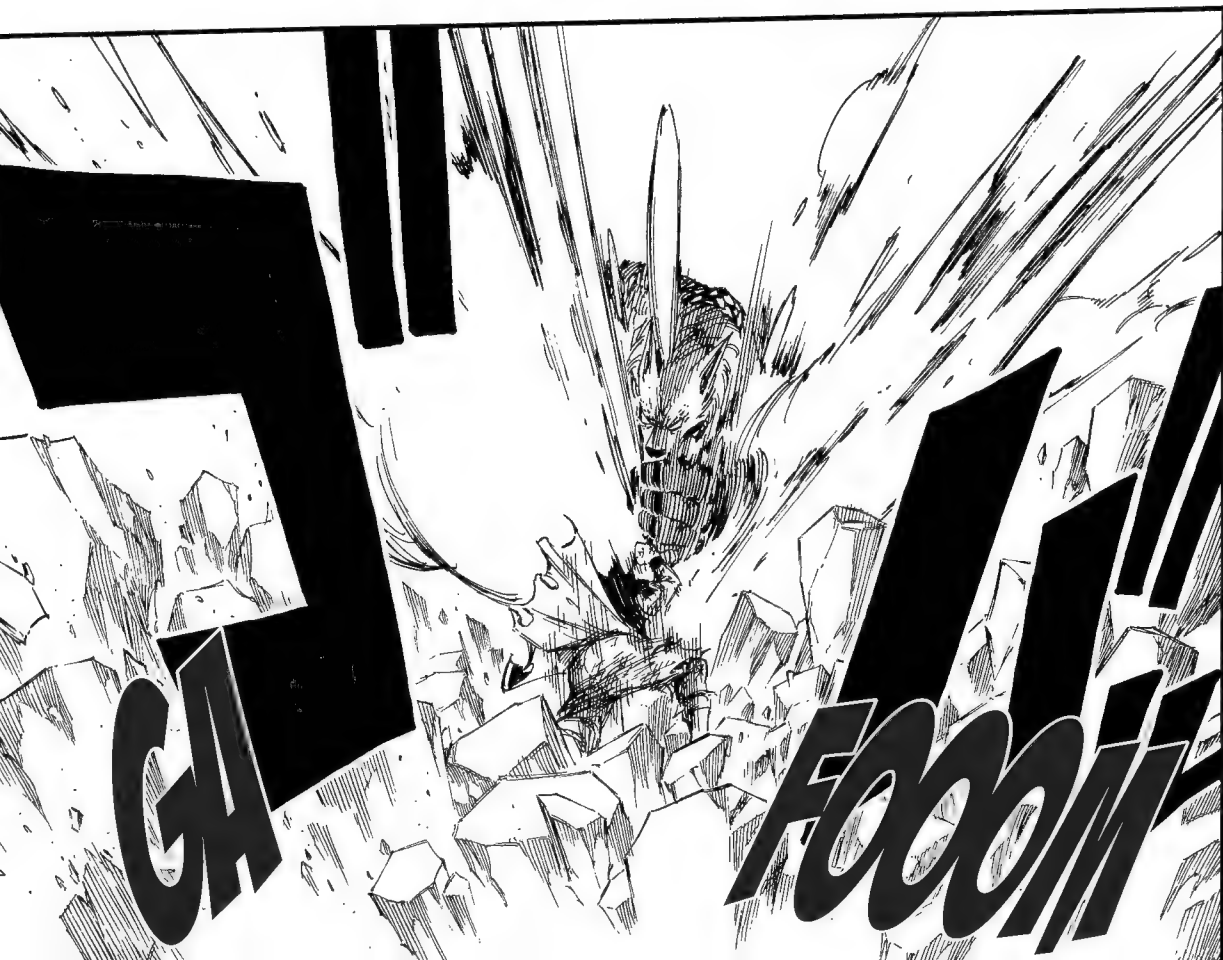
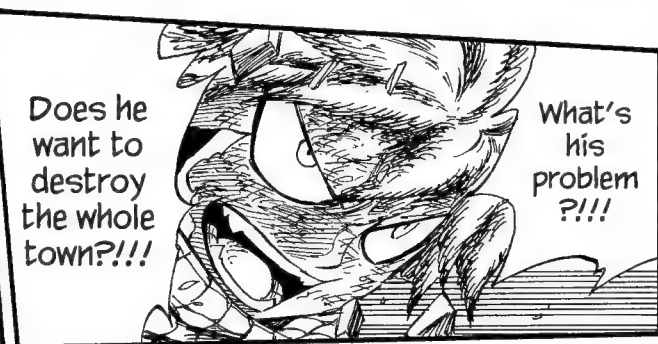
Ha ha...



Natsu!!









You humans
should know
better than to try
and pick a fight
with one of us
demons!! Know
your place!!



Demons
?!

You guys
are all
demons?!



Is that
the whole
reason
you're
fighting
us?!!!



This is your
doomsday,
humans
!!!!

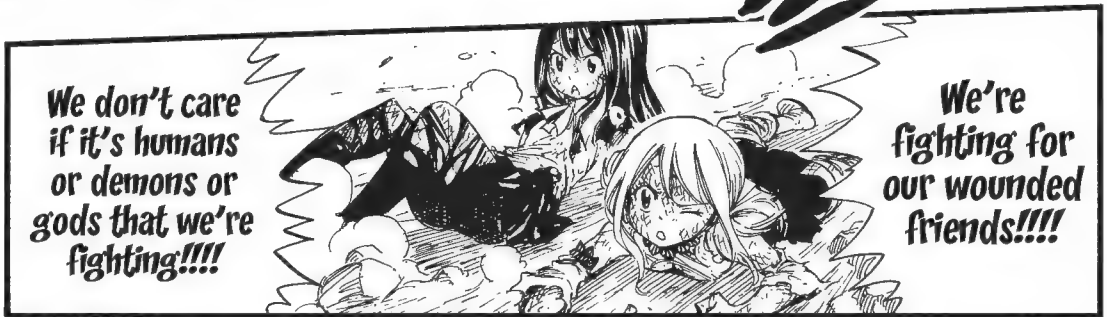
FLASH



Arggh!

DO
KAAMI

Well, we
ain't like
you
!!!!



We don't care
if it's humans
or demons or
gods that we're
fighting!!!!

We're
fighting for
our wounded
friends!!!!



CHHT

CHHT

Gimme
a bit
of your
power
here,
Lexus
!!!!

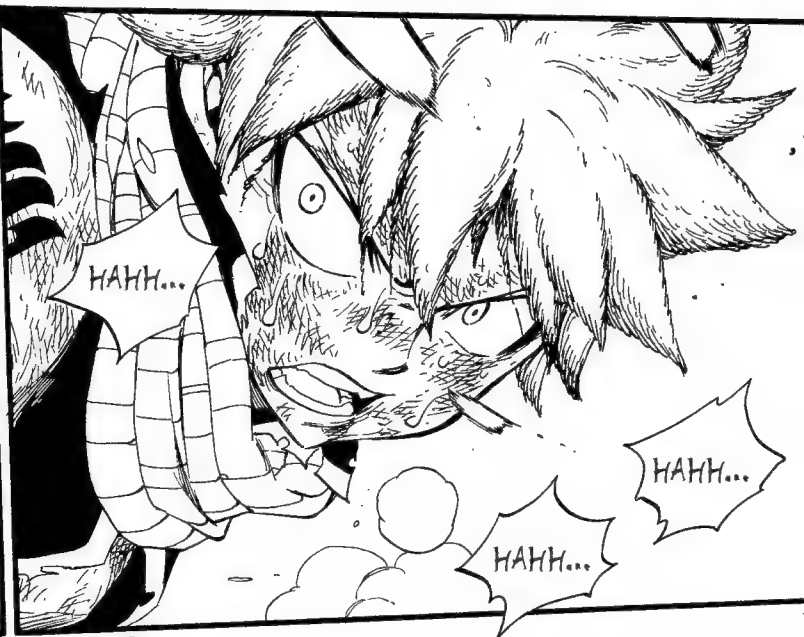
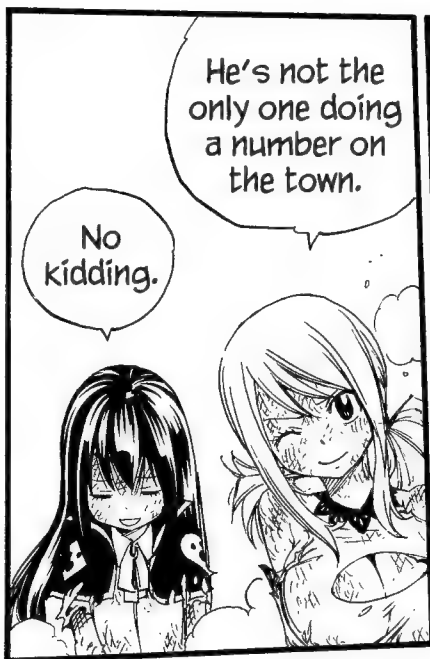


!!!

BOOM

**RAIEN-
RYŪ
NO
GEKI-
TETSU***

!!!!







My bad,
Kyôka...

Man, this
sucks...



But at least
I can take all
these guys
with me...

...when
I fall!!!



Is he trying to blow up the entire town?!!



It can't be...

Wh-What is this...?



You're too late!

The bomb is my own body! You could kill me, and that still wouldn't stop it from going off!



Don't do it!!!!



The whole town is going to...

What can we do...?



Kah ha ha!

I'll see you in hell!

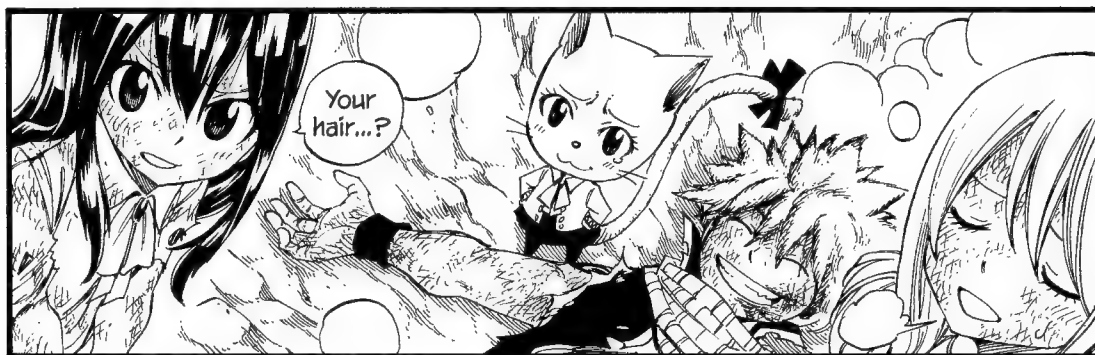
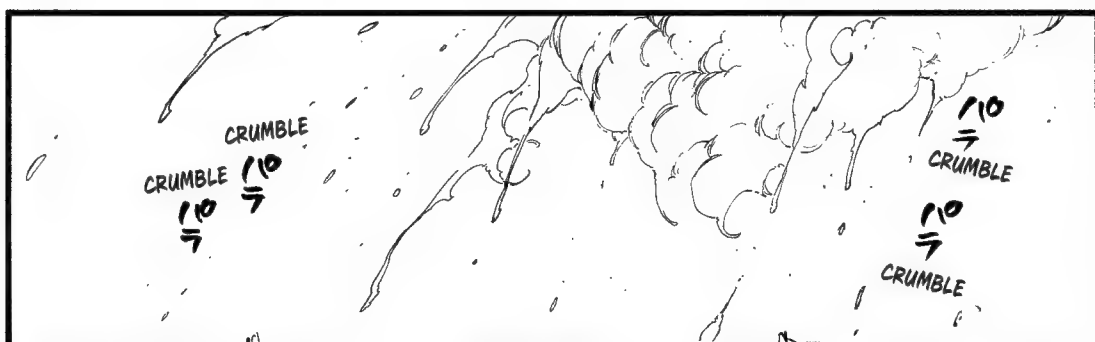
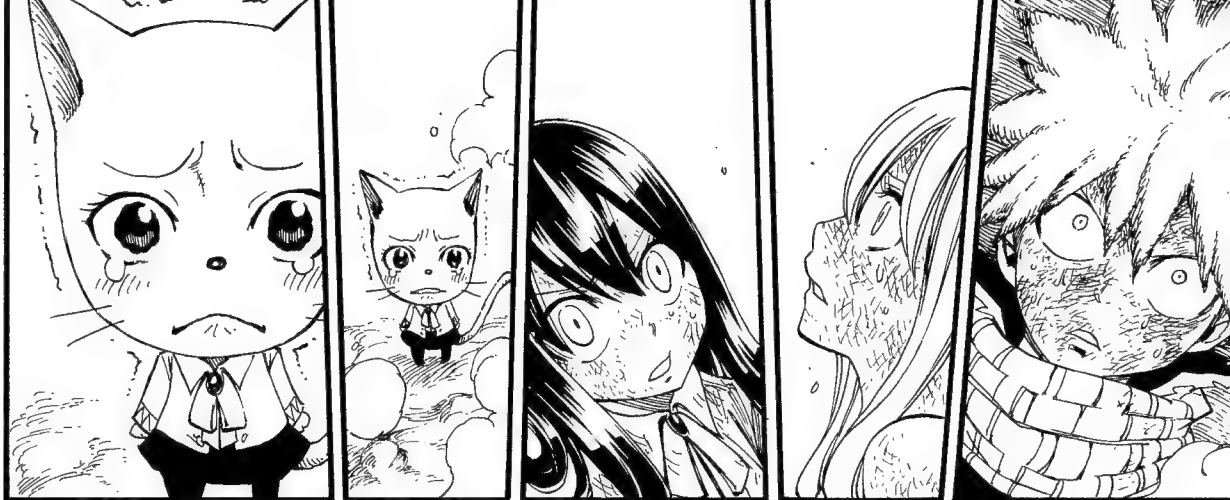




Dam-
mmmmmmmm
!!!!

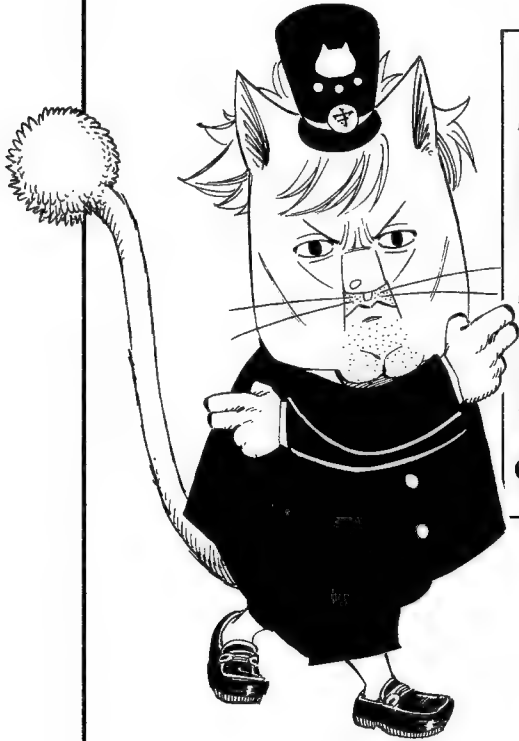
We aren't
gonna let
a creep
like you
get the
best of
us!!!






FAIRYTAIL

Chapter 363: Stories that Demons Read

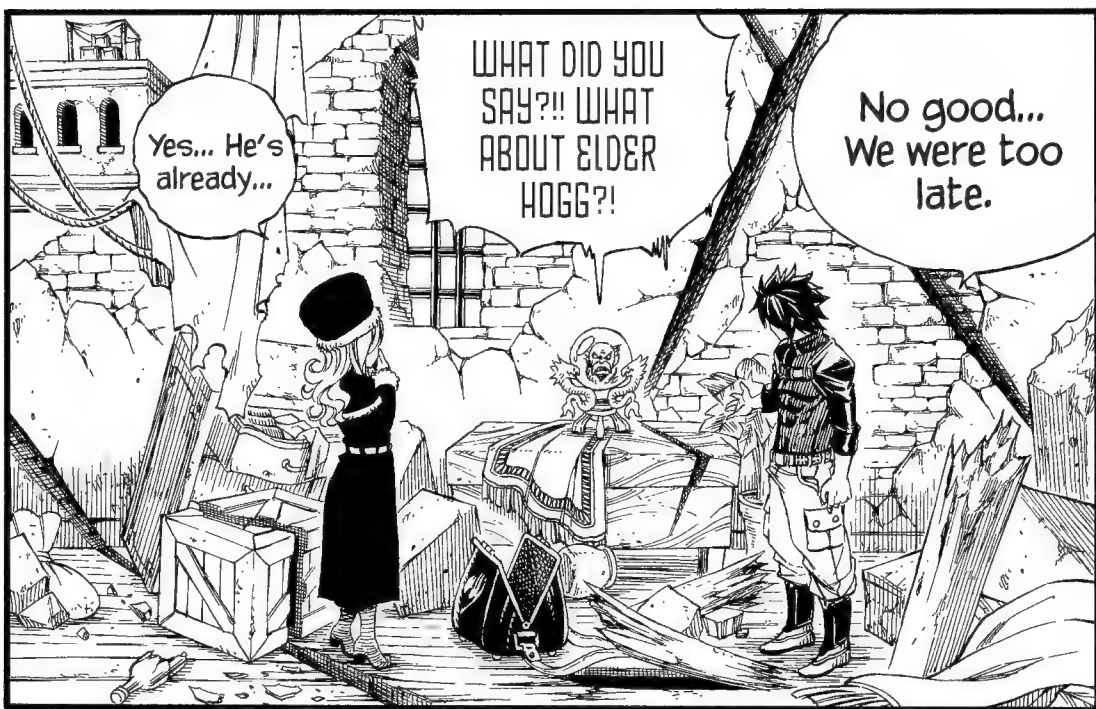
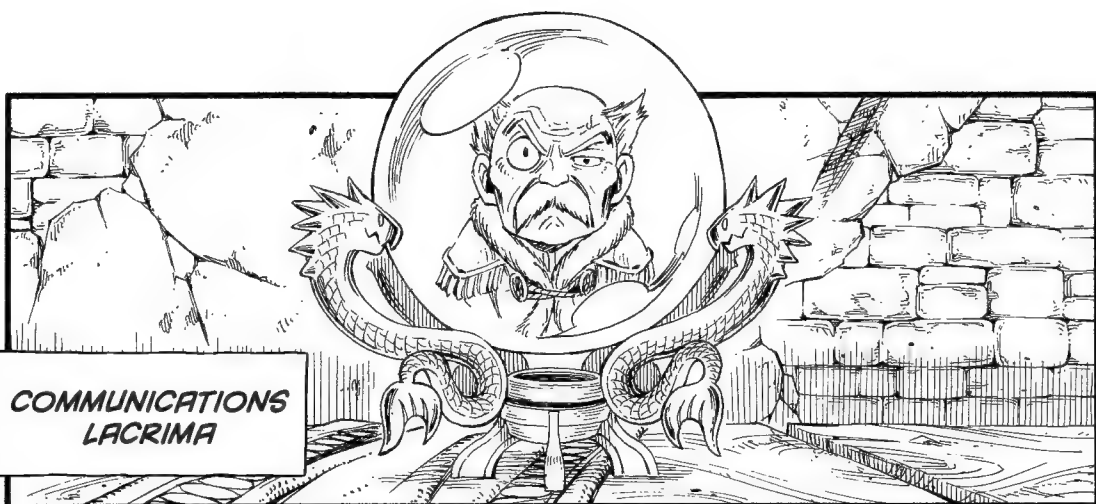


BLUE PEGASUS	
Name: Nichiya	Age: ?
Magic: Aera	
Likes: Ichiya	Dislikes: Stinky things
	

Remarks

He used to be the Captain of the Royal Guard of the Kingdom of Extalia, the land of the Exceed (cats). Even after he arrived in this world, he remained captain of the guard for the group of Exceed, but when he learned how many beings out there were stronger than he was, he stepped down from the position. After that, he met Ichiya, and he left the Exceed's group to take a place with Blue Pegasus.

Before his appearance at the Grand Magic Games, he, Ichiya, and Master Bob were the only ones who knew he had joined.





It's a horrible sight.





But there seems to be no destruction here.

We were too late.

We've deduced that it was an assassination.



Gajeel...

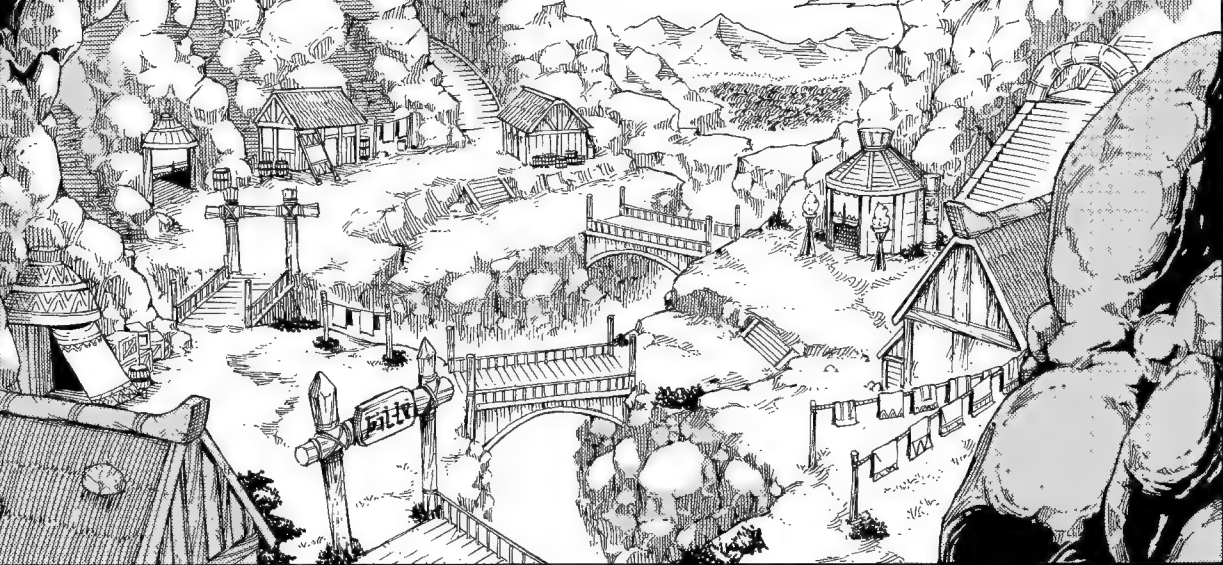
Damn it!! If we'd gotten here just a little bit sooner...



The only groups left are Natsu's, who went to Elder Michello...

...and Elfman's, who went to protect Elder Yuri.

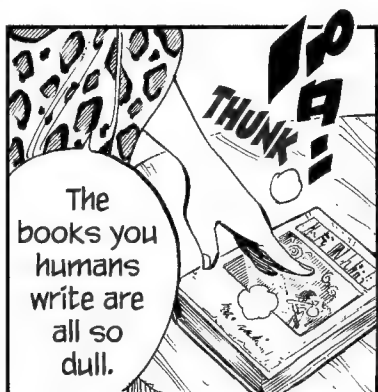
They got Elder Hogg and Elder Belno...

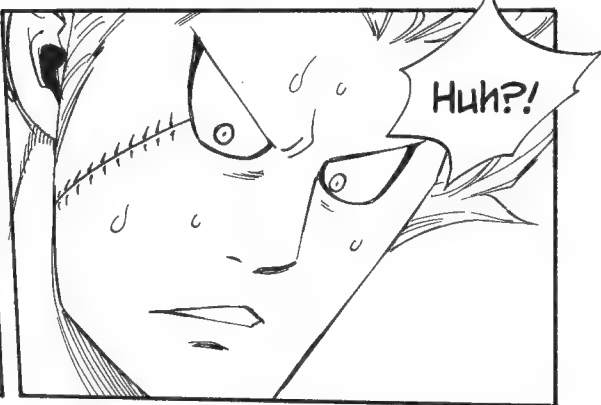
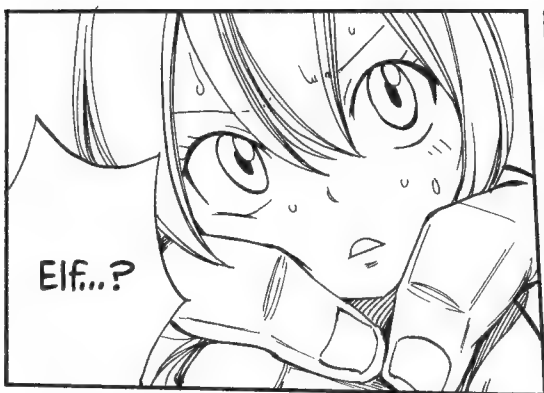














Lisanna
!!!

Lisanna
!!!!



Urgh...

Ur...

No...!
My hand is
moving on
its own...



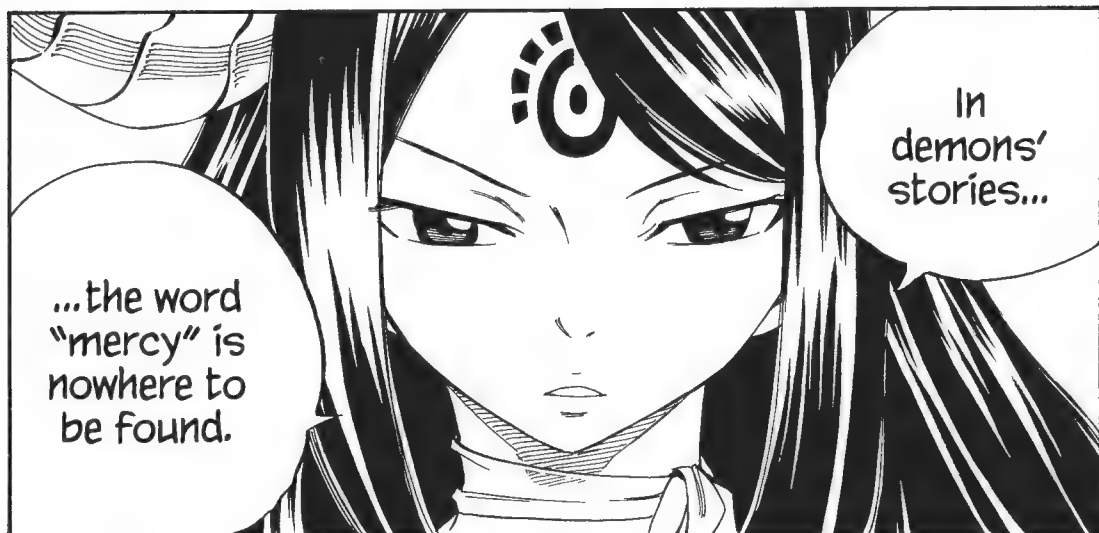
Stop it
now!!!!

What
are you
doing?!!
Stop it!!!



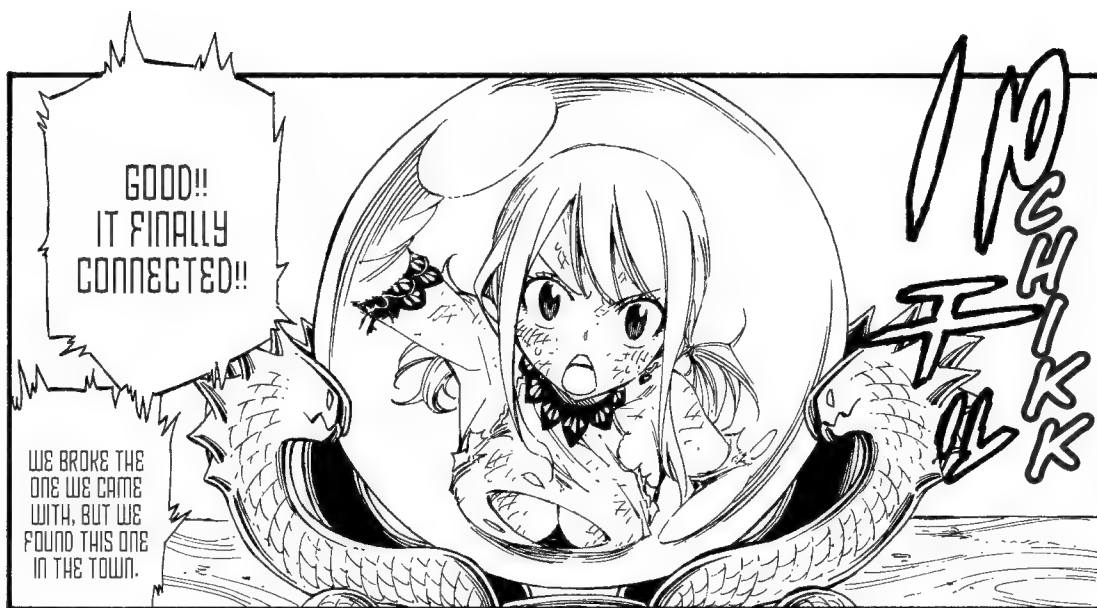
Ca...

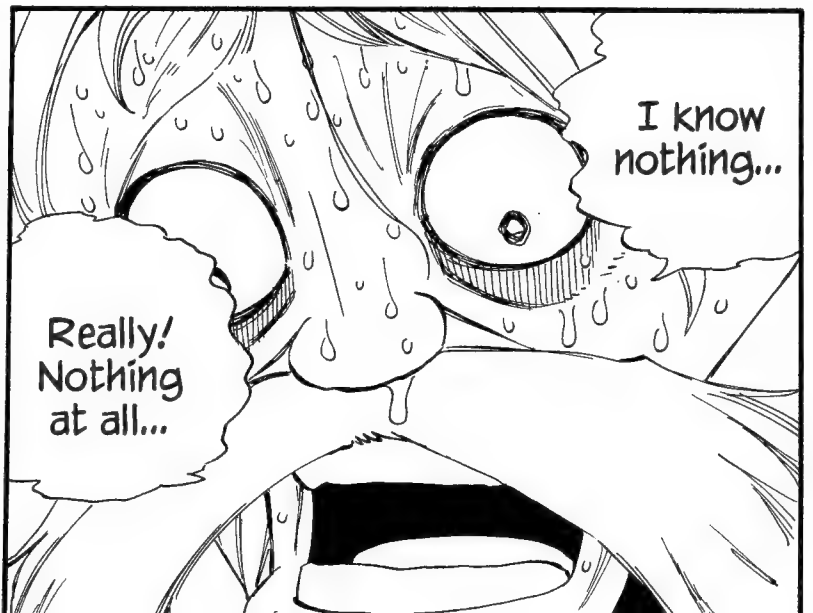
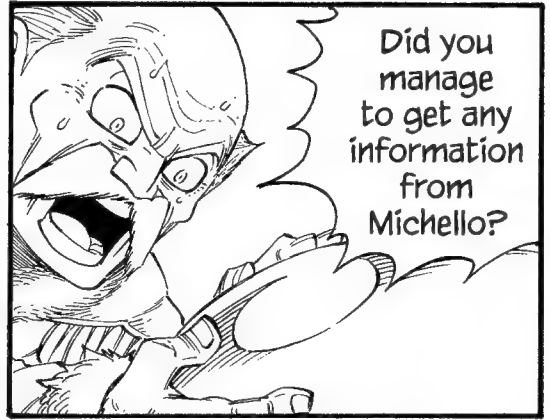
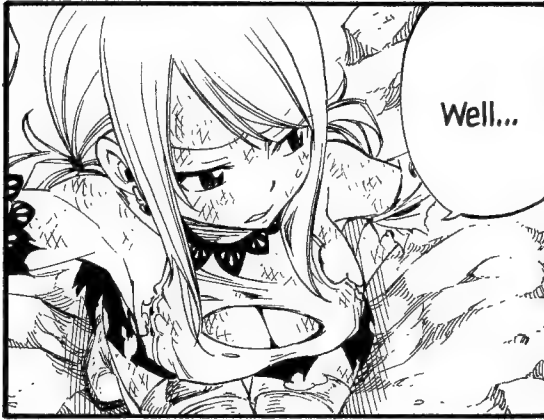
Can't
breathe...

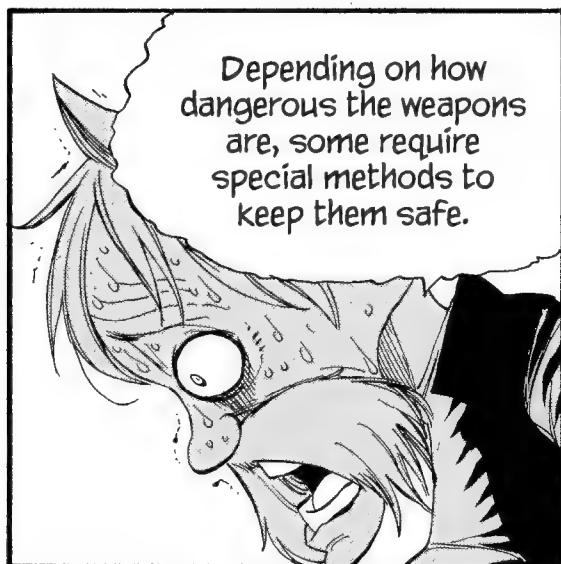


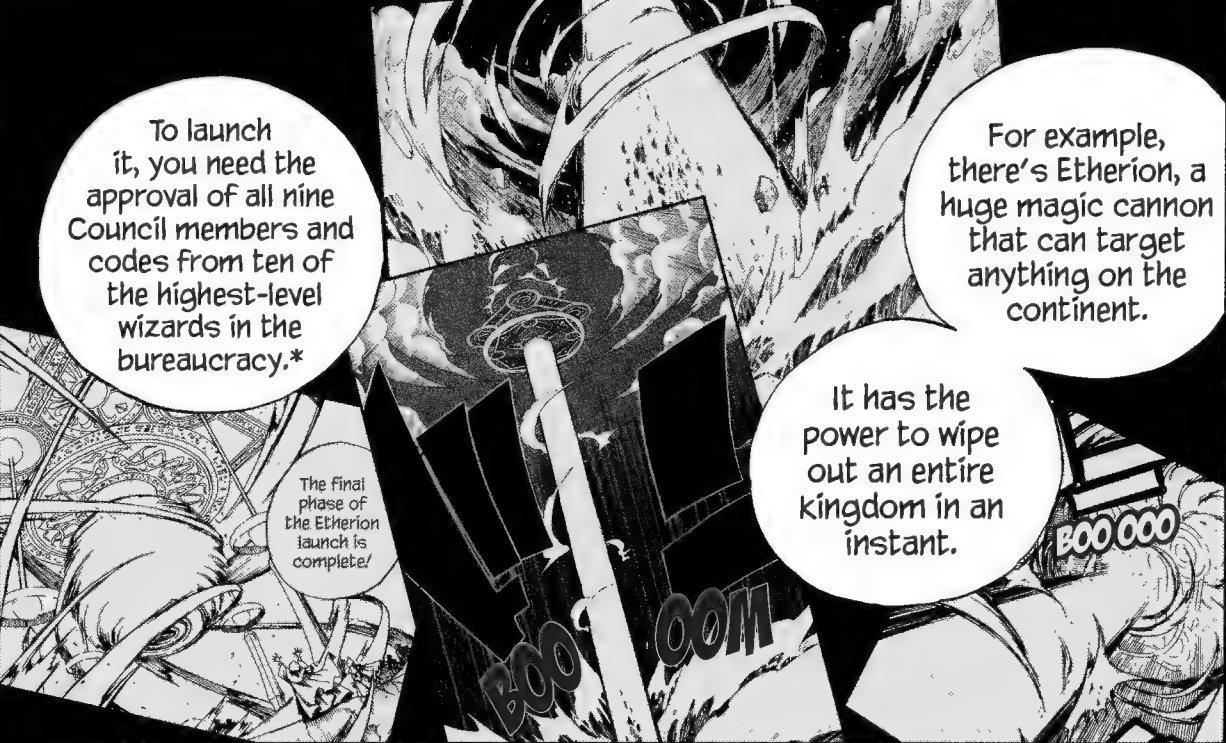
...the word
"mercy" is
nowhere to
be found.

In
demons'
stories...









To launch it, you need the approval of all nine Council members and codes from ten of the highest-level wizards in the bureaucracy.*

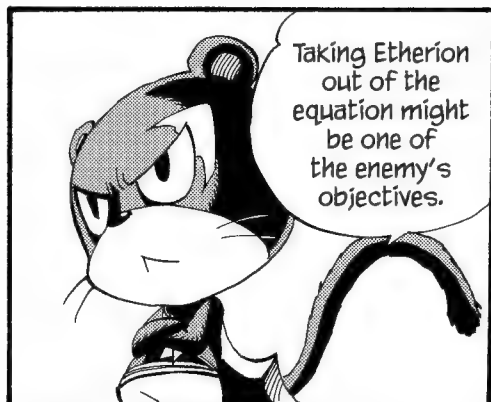
The final phase of the Etherion launch is complete!

For example, there's Etherion, a huge magic cannon that can target anything on the continent.

It has the power to wipe out an entire kingdom in an instant.

800,000

* Seven years ago, it only took the agreement of five members of the council to fire it.



Taking Etherion out of the equation might be one of the enemy's objectives.



They can't use Etherion, huh?

In other words, now that all the Council members are dead...



I know you were sworn to secrecy!!! But we're in a crisis here!!!

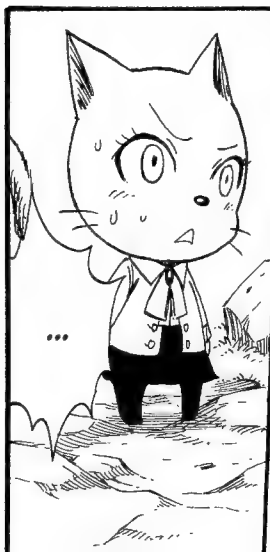


What kind of weapon is Face?!



**A weapon
that can
eliminate all
the magic on
the continent.**

**It's
a magic
pulse
bomb.**



**Wiped
out
...?!**



**All the
magic
on the
continent...?**



**Wha
...?!**



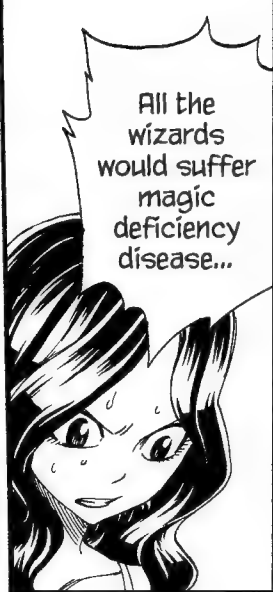
What kind of weapon is this supposed to be...?



A world where all of the wizards are stripped of their magic, barely clinging to life, while Tartaros can use their powers with impunity...



It's worse than that!!! We just found out that the members of Tartaros don't use magic!! They use curses!!!

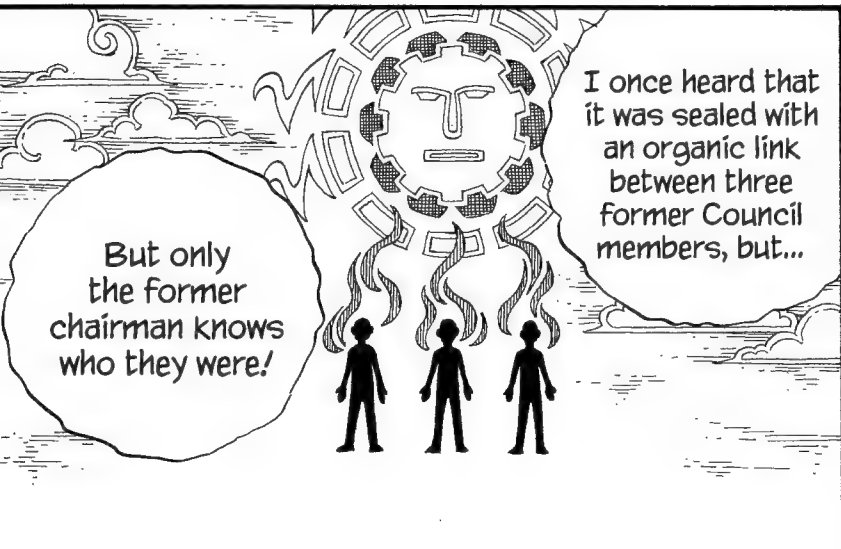


All the wizards would suffer magic deficiency disease...



We'll smash it to pieces before they can set it off!!!!

Where is this thing?!!!

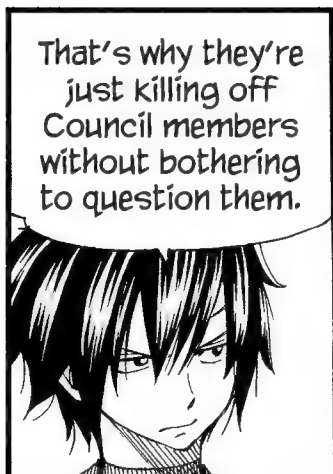


But only the former chairman knows who they were!

I once heard that it was sealed with an organic link between three former Council members, but...



I... I don't know... Really...



That's why they're just killing off Council members without bothering to question them.



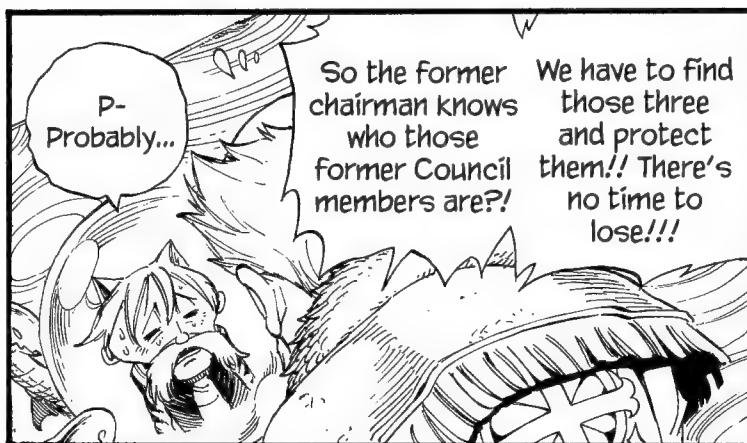
So the key to break the seal would be the lives of those three wizards...

Organic Link Magic...



Wouldn't that suggest that Tartaros already knows where Face is hidden?

But...looking at it from another angle, it means they don't *need* to ask them any questions.



P-Probably...


So the former chairman knows who those former Council members are?!

We have to find those three and protect them!! There's no time to lose!!!



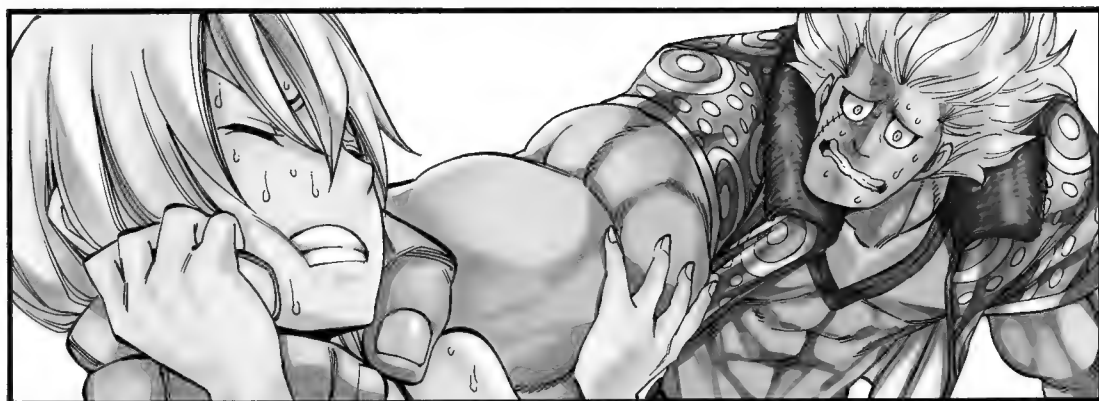
IF THEY MANAGE TO OFF THOSE THREE COUNCIL MEMBERS, FACE WILL FALL RIGHT INTO THEIR HANDS, OLD MAN!!





The two
most reliable
members we
have!!!

Chapter 364: Tartaros Arc, Part 1: Immorality and Sinners





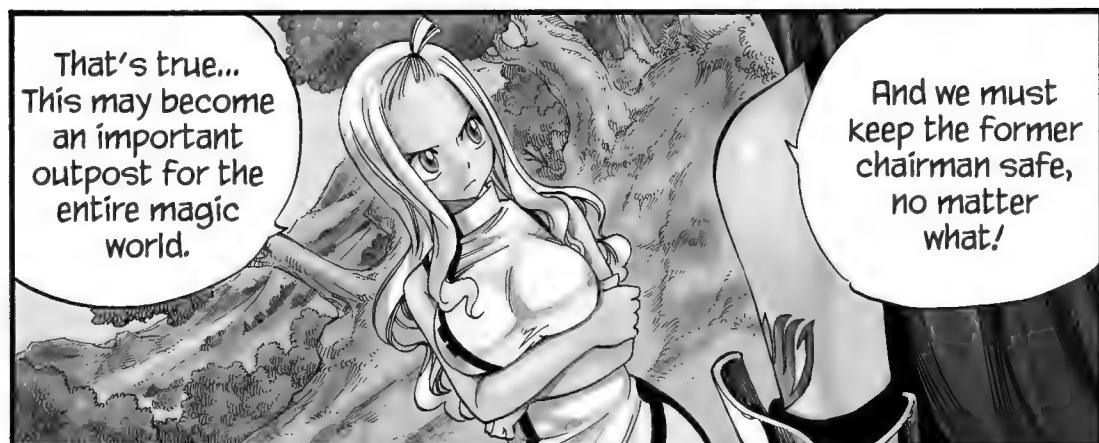
Are you sure
you want to be
on *this* detail,
protecting
the former
chairman?

Erza...
they're probably
targeting Jellal
too.



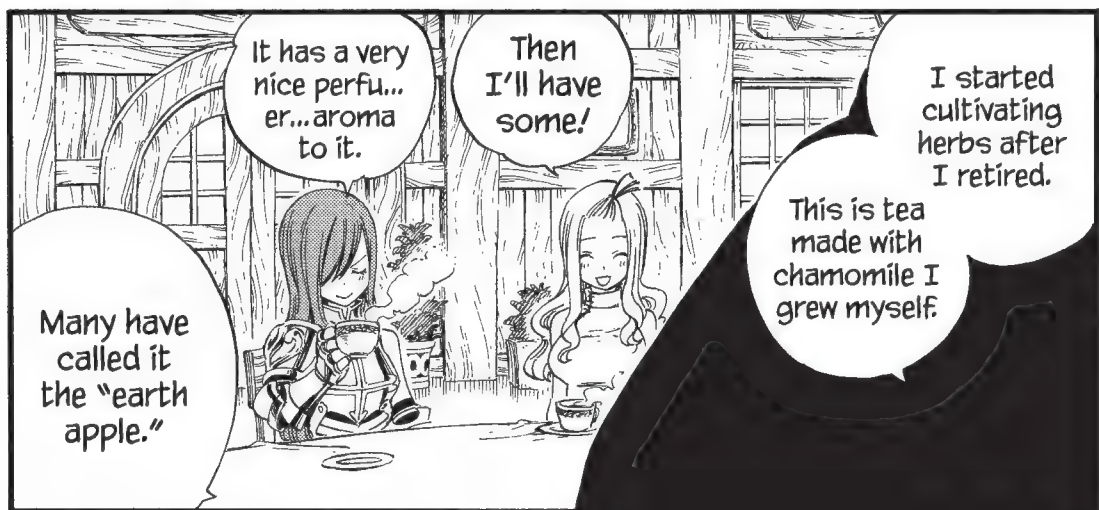
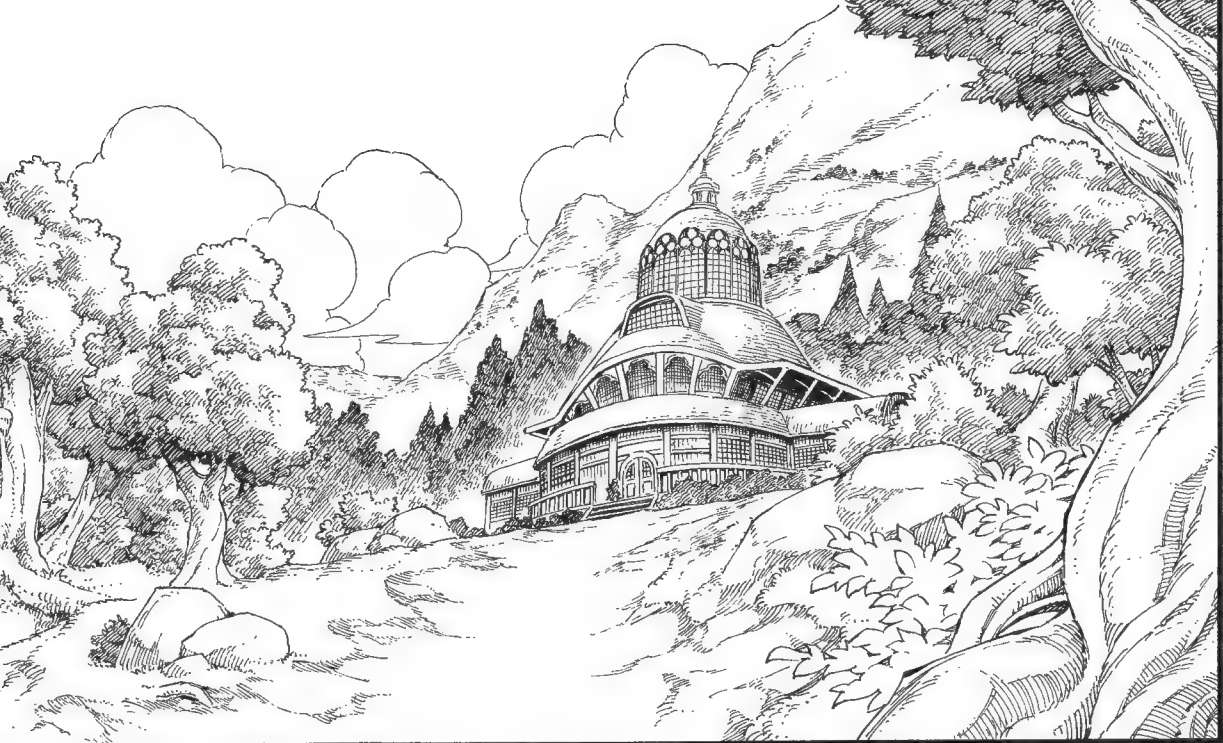
Besides, he
can protect
himself
without my
assistance.

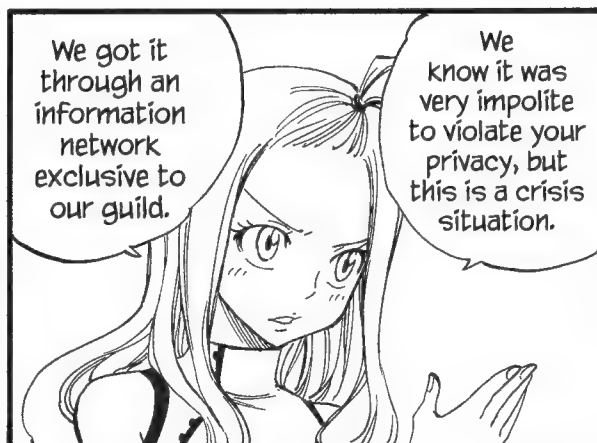
I do not
know Jellal's
location.



That's true...
This may become
an important
outpost for the
entire magic
world.

And we must
keep the former
chairman safe,
no matter
what!







I do recall you, however.

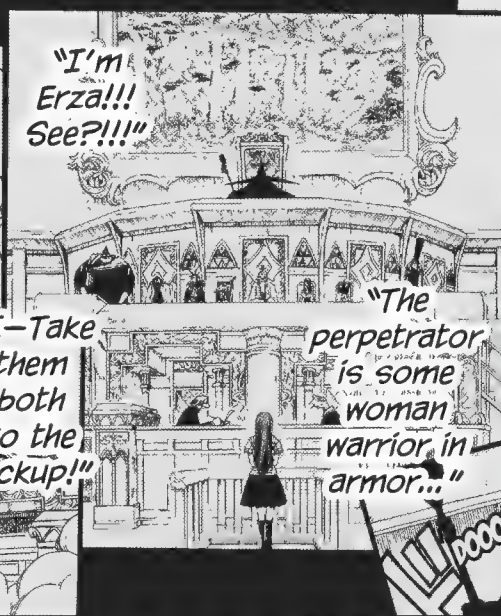


We beg your forgiveness.

Yes, well...
I'm retired,
so I won't
be punishing
anyone.
HA HA HA!



"I'm
Erza!!!
See?!!!"



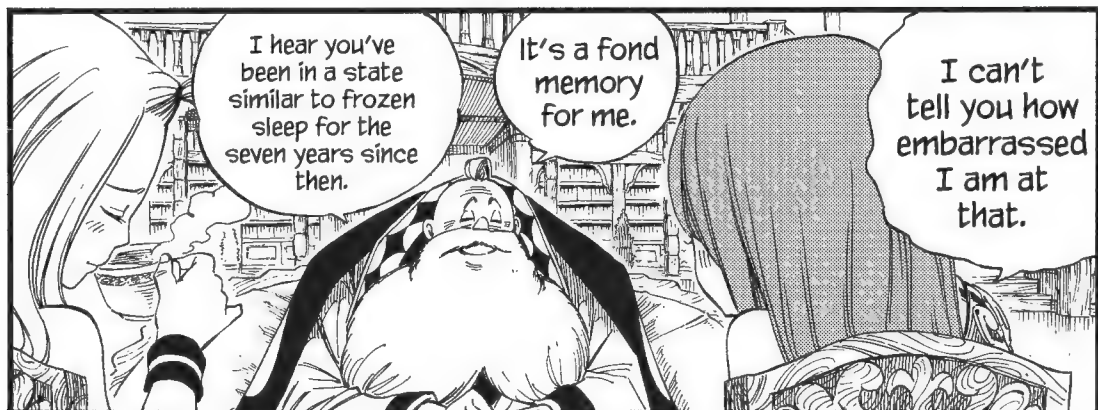
"Will the
defendant,
Erza Scarlet,
please... take
the stand."



"M-My
humblest
apologies..."

"T-Take
them
both
to the
lockup!"

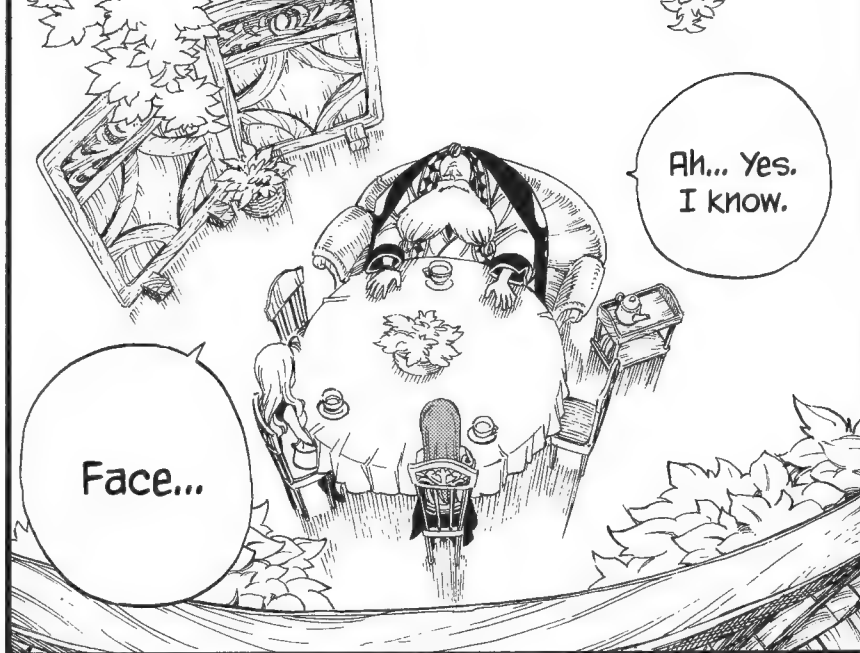
"The
perpetrator
is some
woman
warrior in
armor..."



I hear you've
been in a state
similar to frozen
sleep for the
seven years since
then.

It's a fond
memory
for me.

I can't
tell you how
embarrassed
I am at
that.

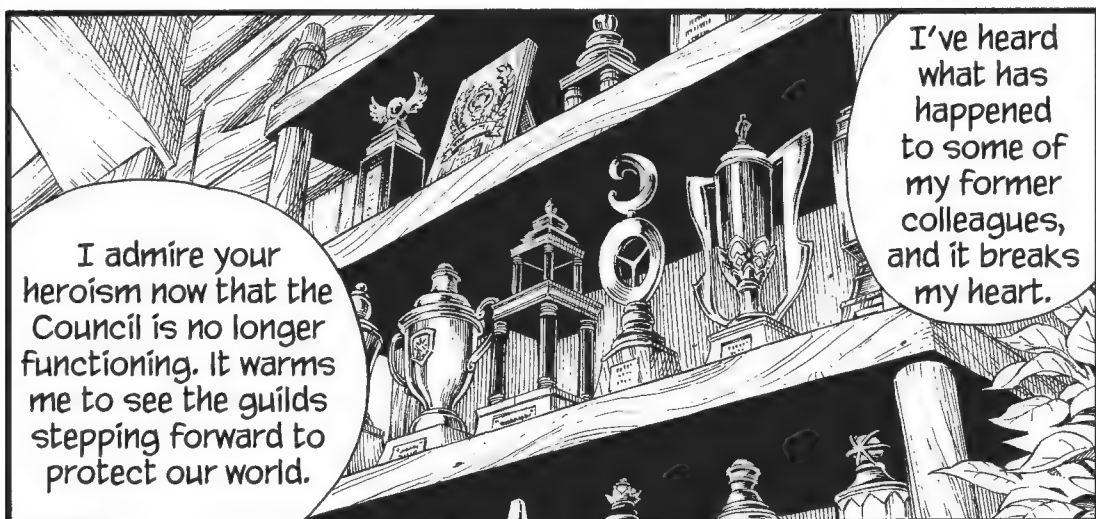


Ah... Yes.
I know.

Face...



Crawford-san... The
reason we're
here...

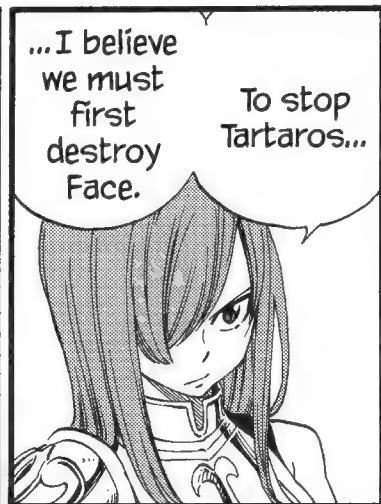


I admire your
heroism now that the
Council is no longer
functioning. It warms
me to see the guilds
stepping forward to
protect our world.

I've heard
what has
happened
to some of
my former
colleagues,
and it breaks
my heart.

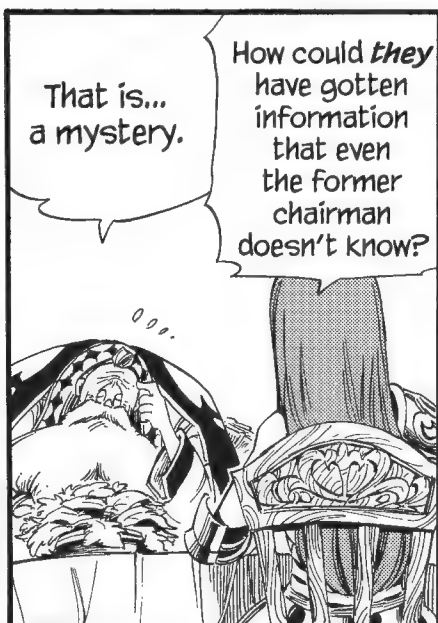
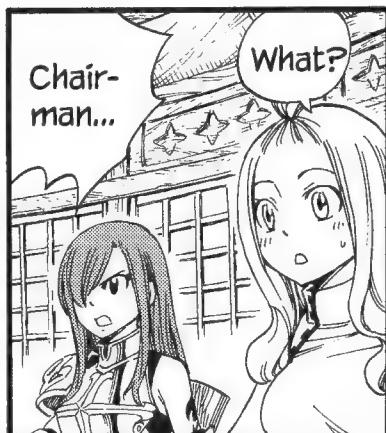
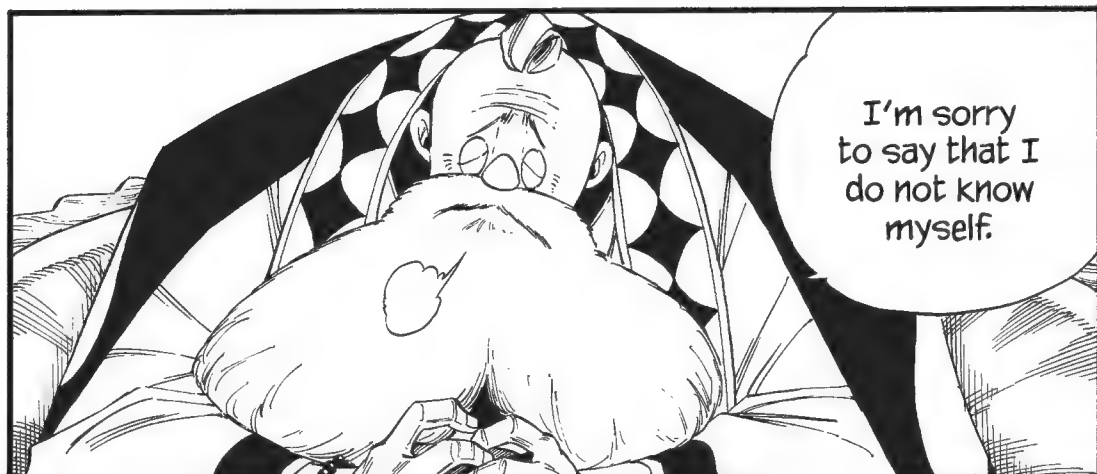


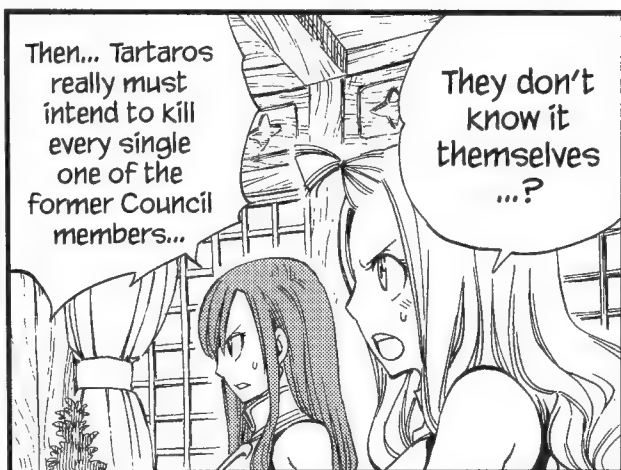
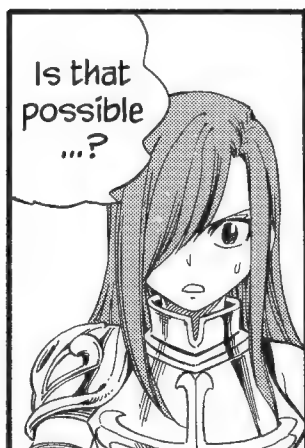
I wonder if
you'd be good
enough to tell
us where it is
kept?



...I believe
we must
first
destroy
Face.

To stop
Tartaros...







...



Your house is surrounded.

There are twenty of them, by their footfalls.



It seems they've arrived.



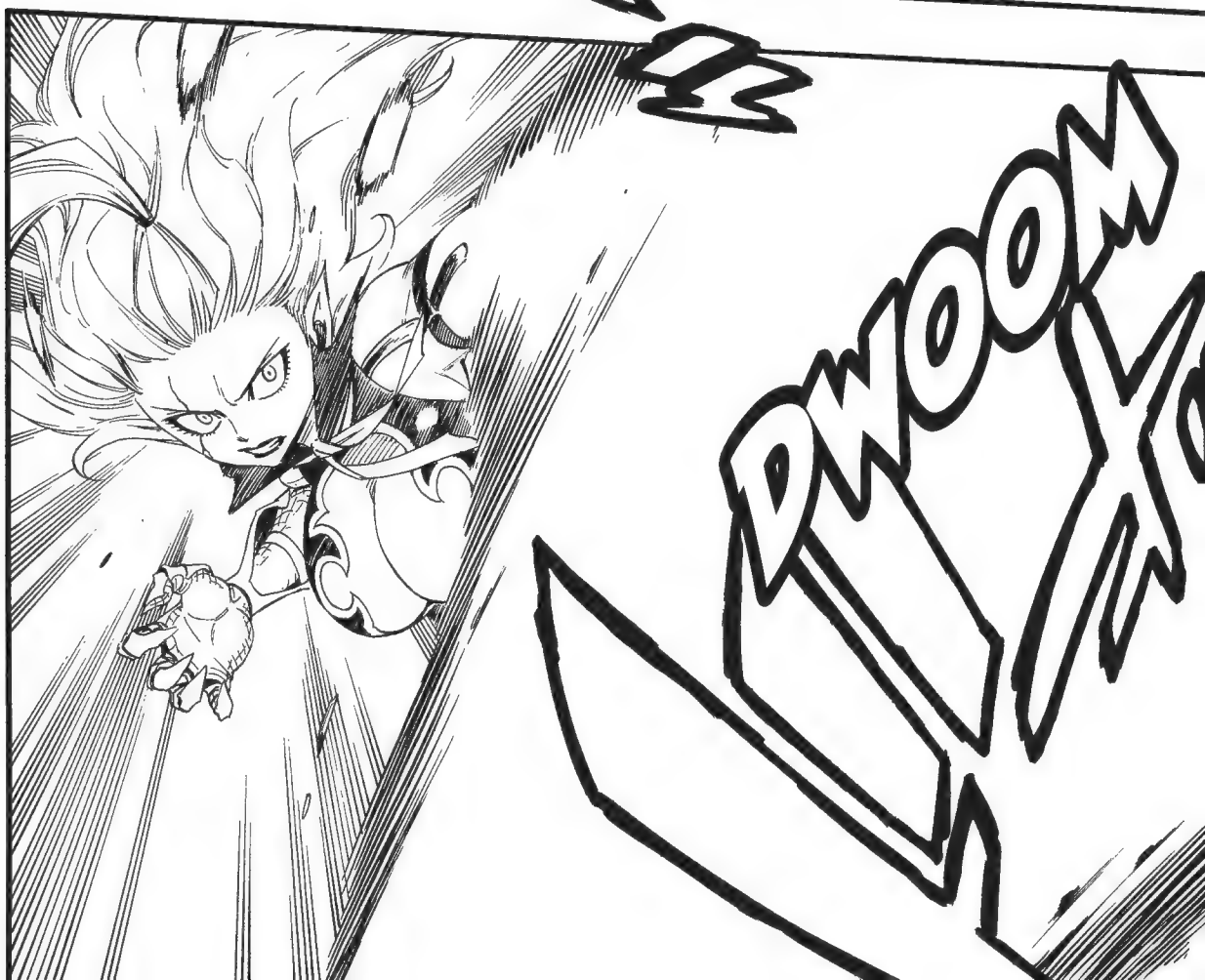
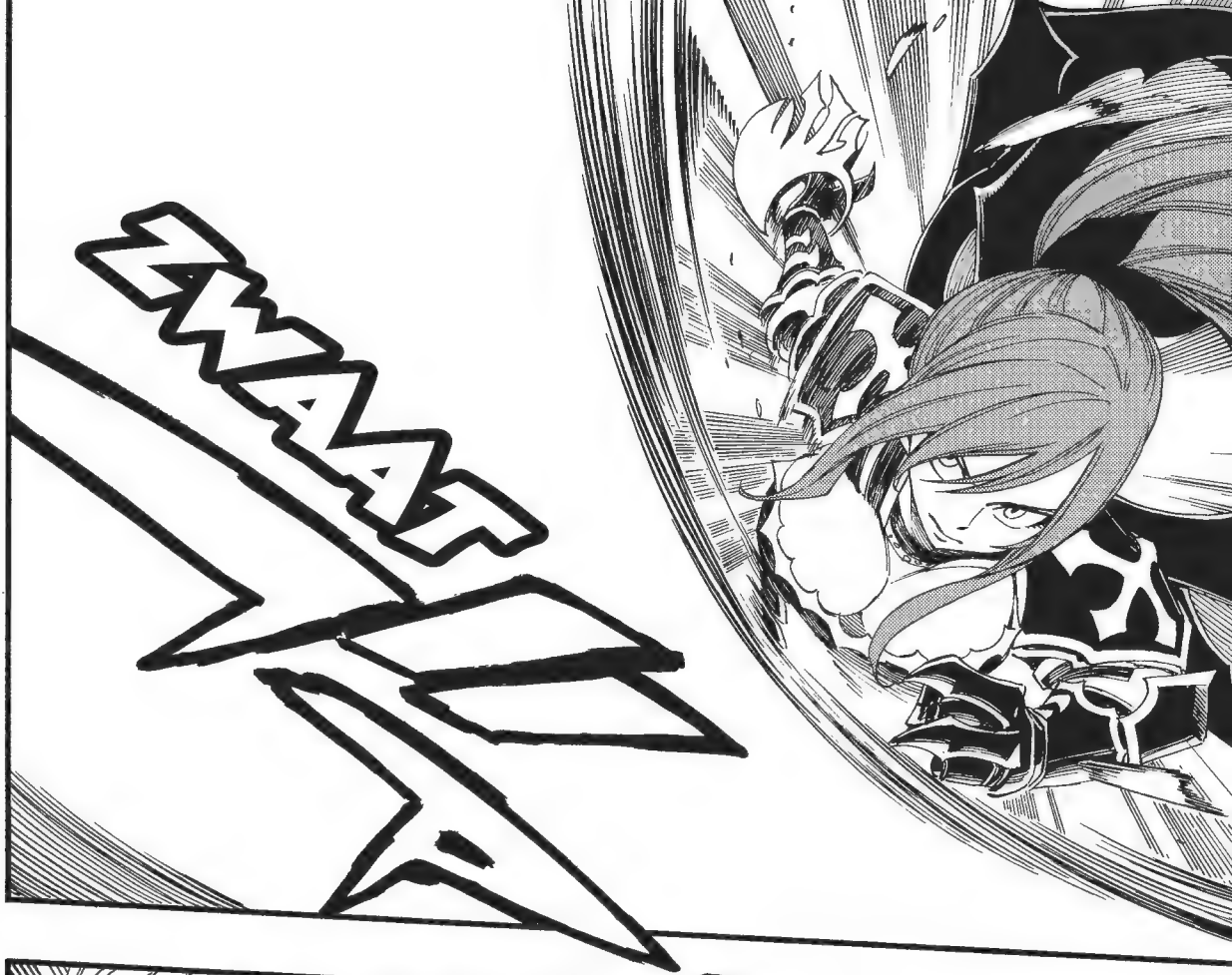
Here they come, Mira!!

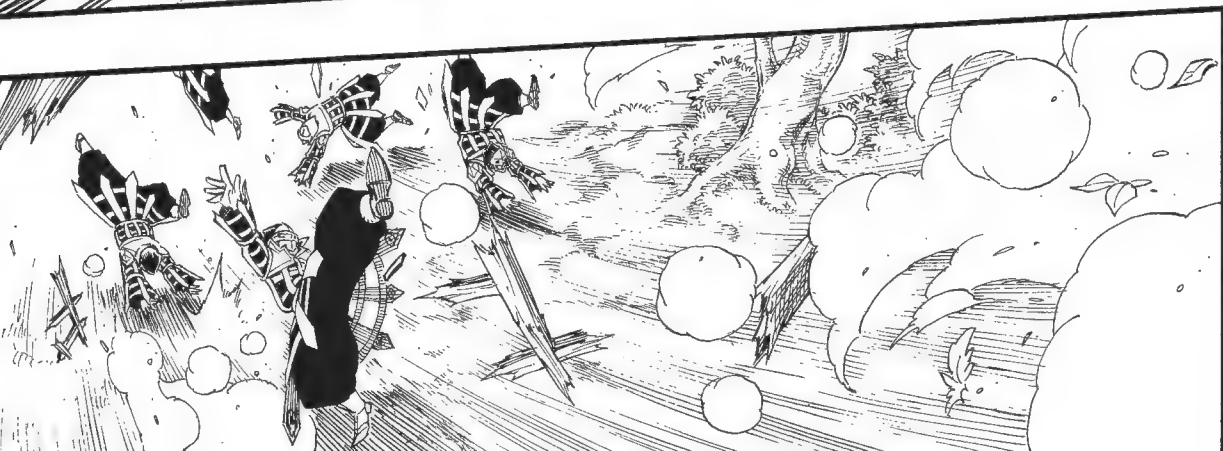
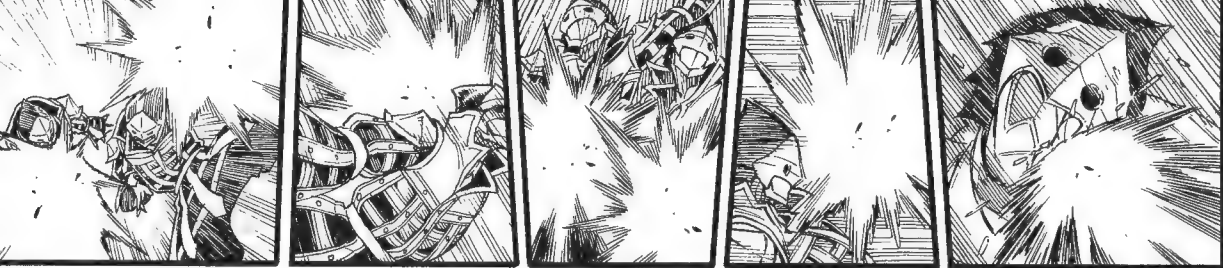


I-Is it Tartaros?!!

Chairman, get to a more secure room!!

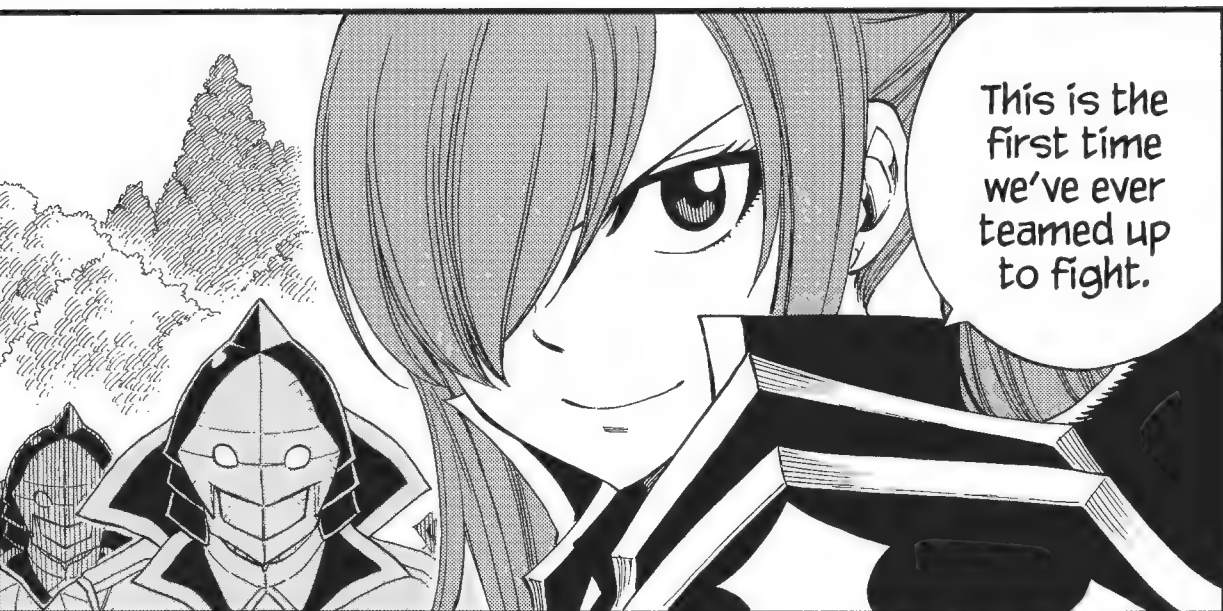


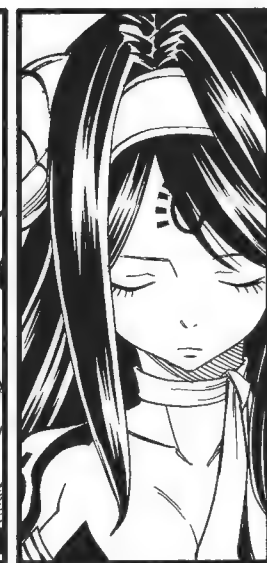
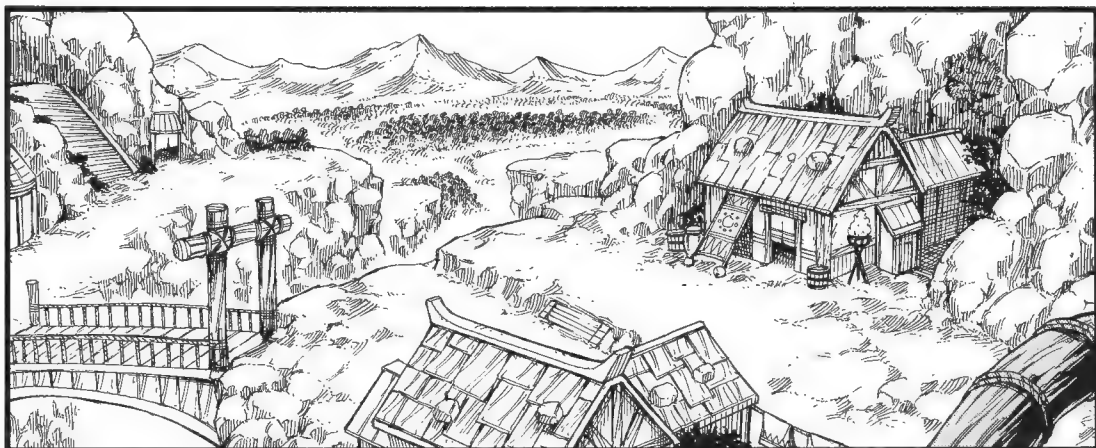




You
won't lay a
finger on the
chairman!







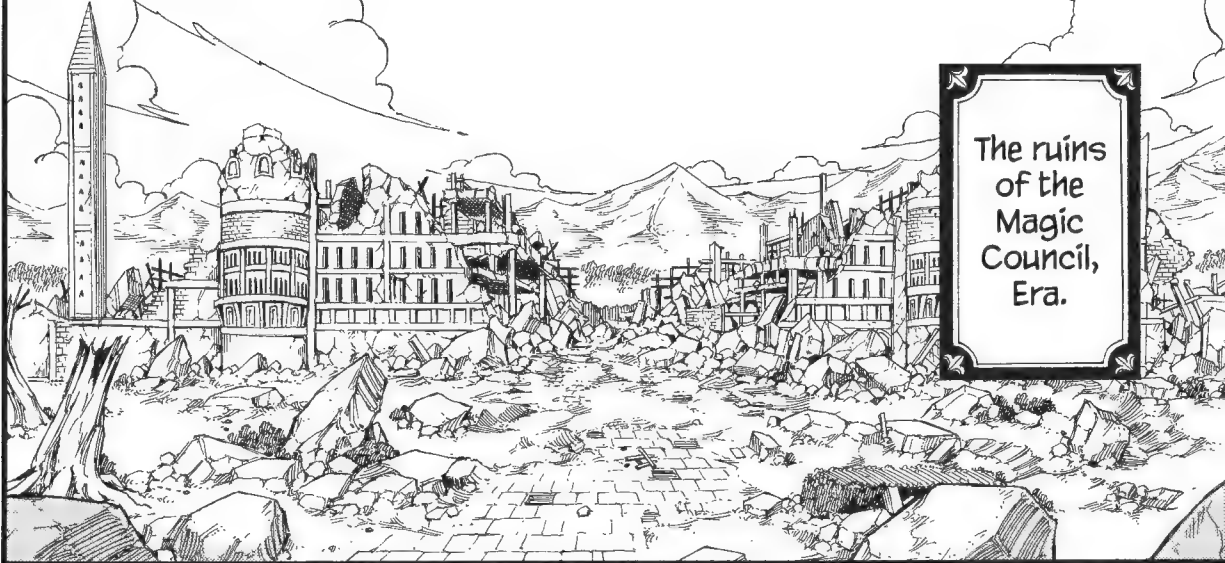


Begging?

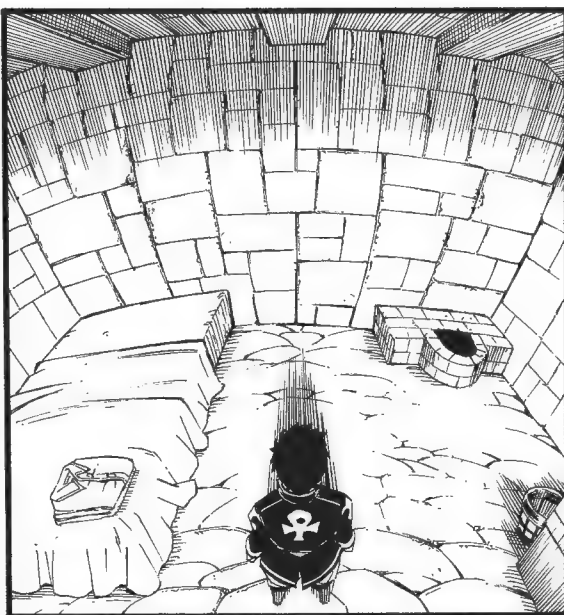


Will you sell
me your
soul?





The ruins
of the
Magic
Council,
Era.



A weapon
that makes
it so no
wizard on
the continent
can use
magic.



It's a
magic
pulse
bomb.

Tartaros
is after
the weapon
called Face.



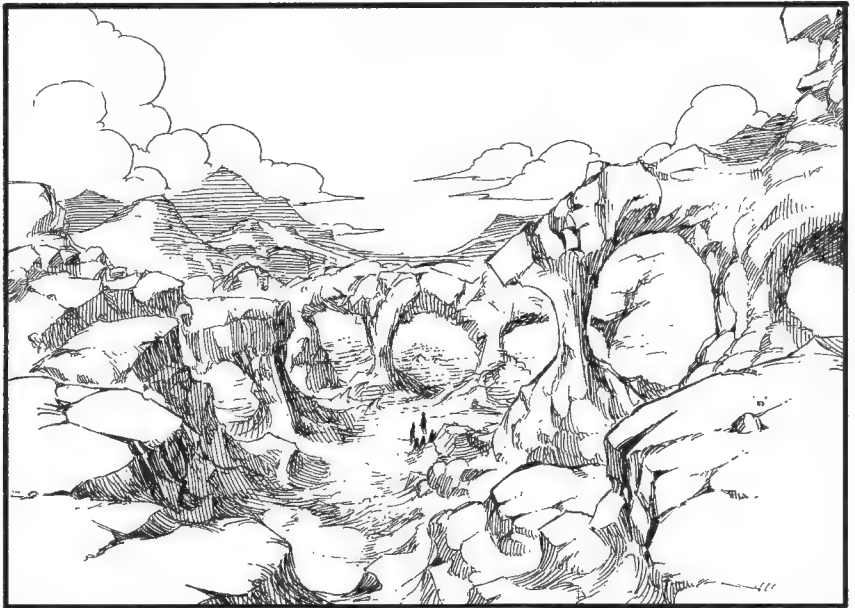
*There's
no
turning
back
now...*

*I will
crush
Tartaros!*



Nothin' like
the taste of
fresh air!

**Pheww
!!**



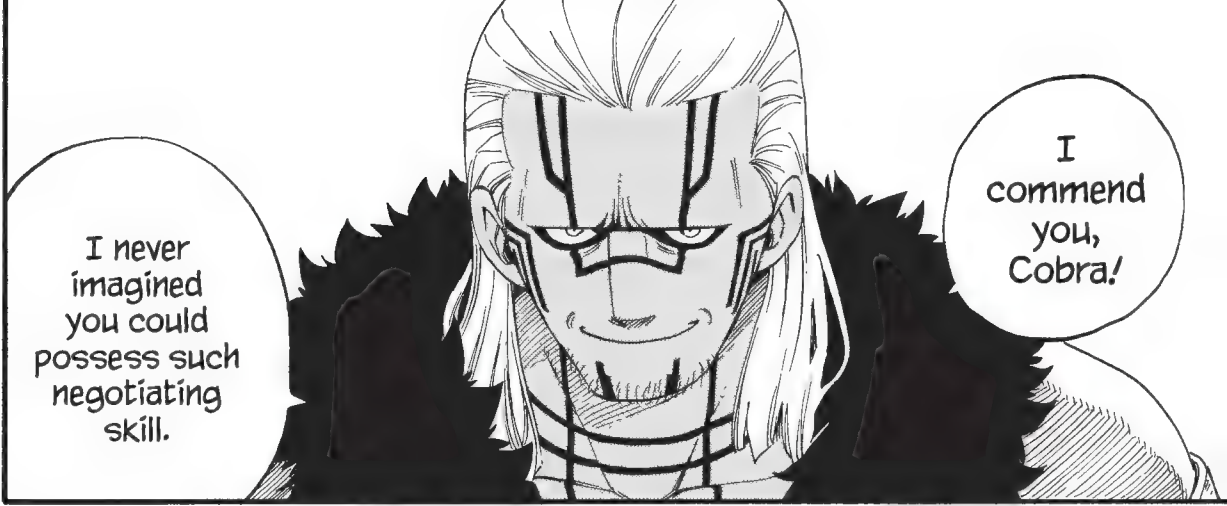
Right,
guys?



It seems
our love was
received...by
someone.

Those
words...are
too clichéd.

Freedom
sure is
great!







I'll
look
for my
brother
—



Now,
what'll we
do first?



We will
march
on.

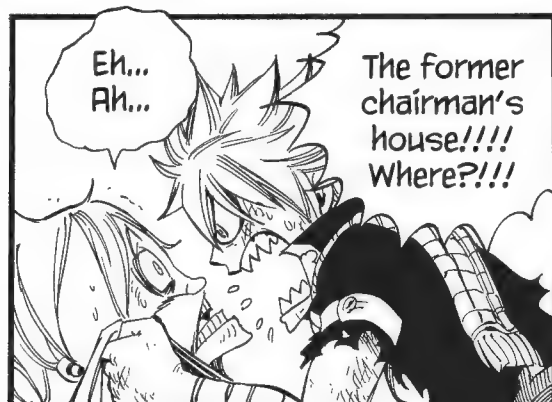


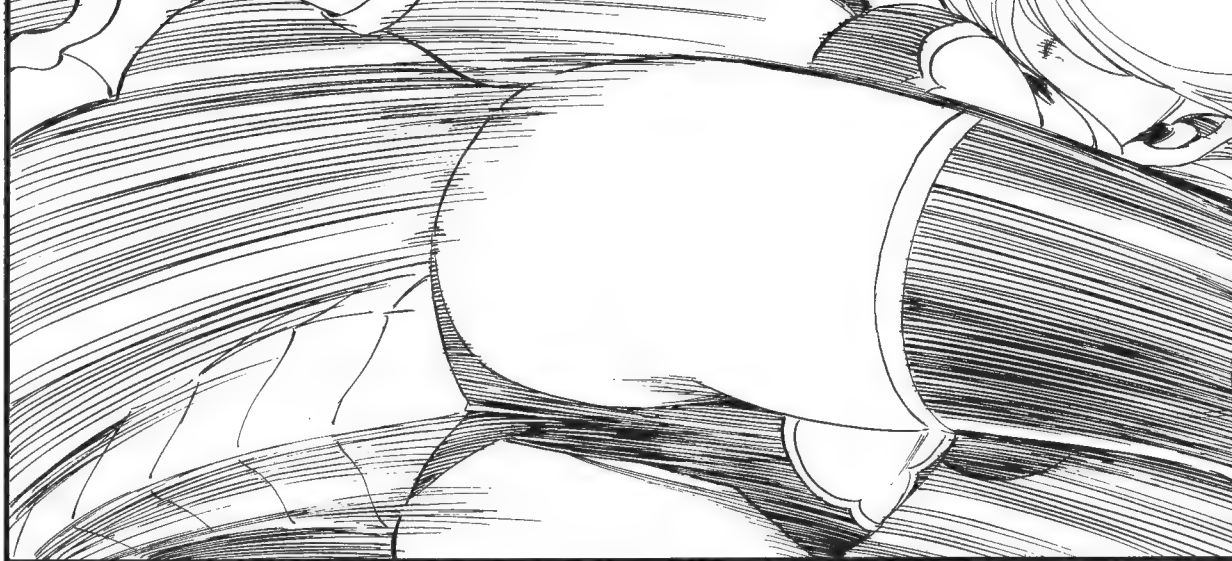


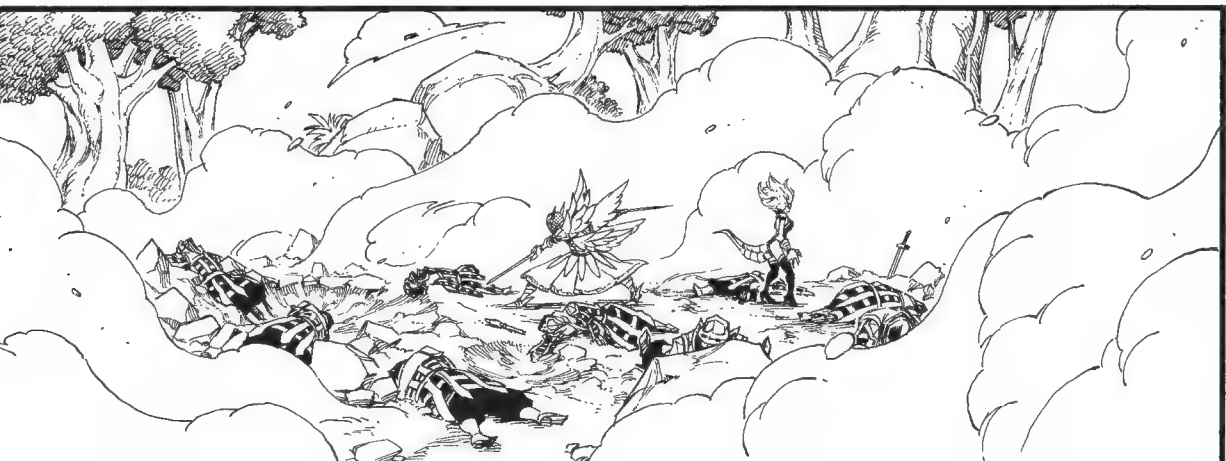
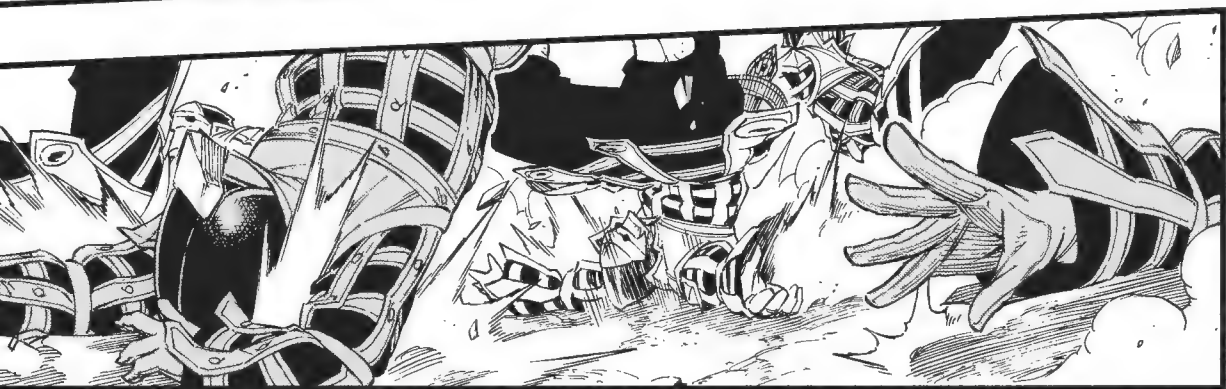


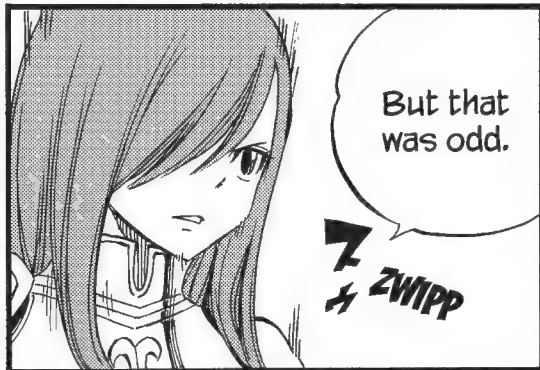
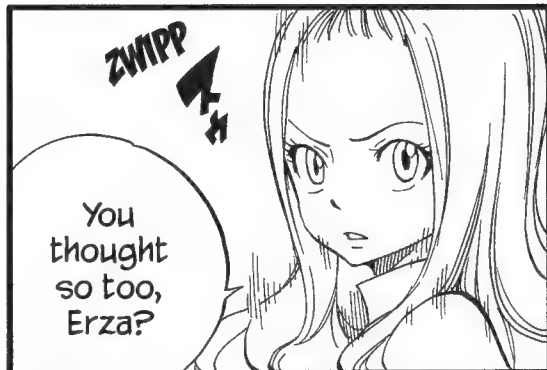
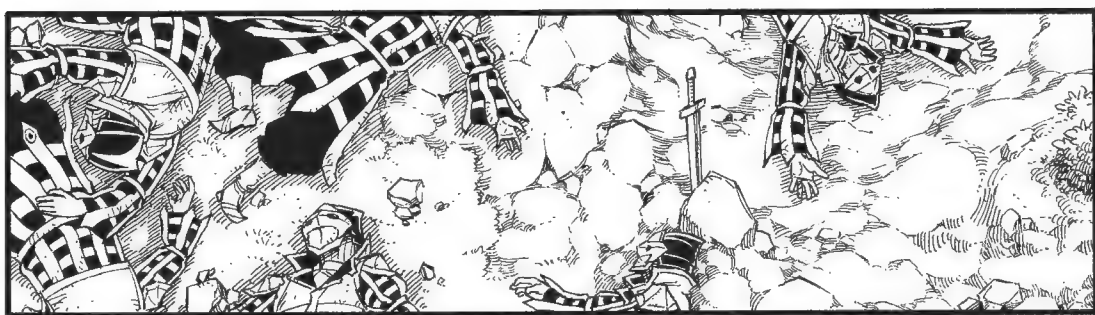
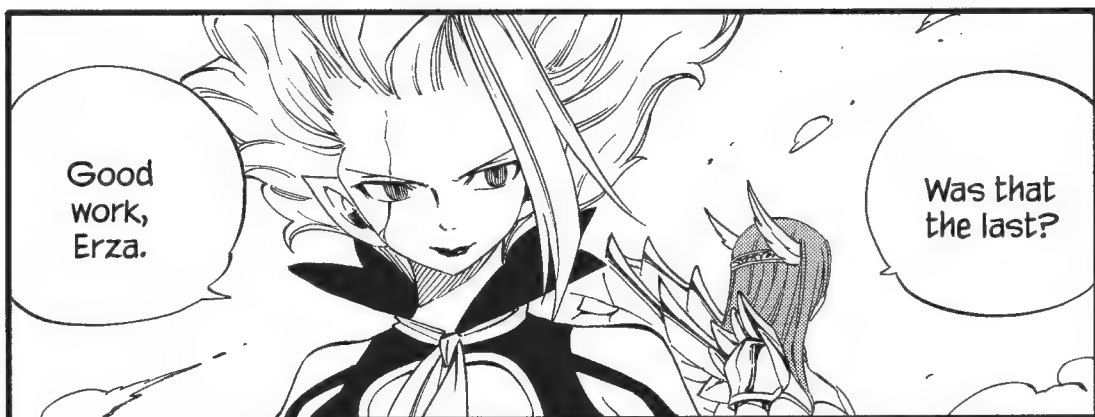
You've
got the
Seis...











Nobody... not even the
present Magic Council,
knows where the old
members live! And about
Face too!



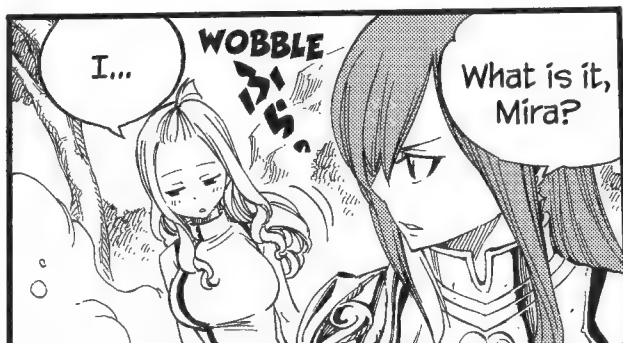
Dammit!!
Why didn't
I think of it
sooner?!!



What's
wrong,
Natsu?!!



So why
does
Tartaros
?!!



I...

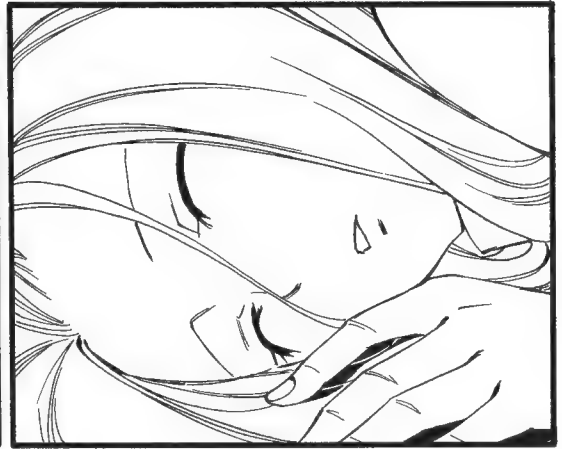
WOBBLE
ふふふ

What is it,
Mira?



Erza...





I don't know, but...

...to have all the info on the Council, it's gotta be somebody high up...!!!

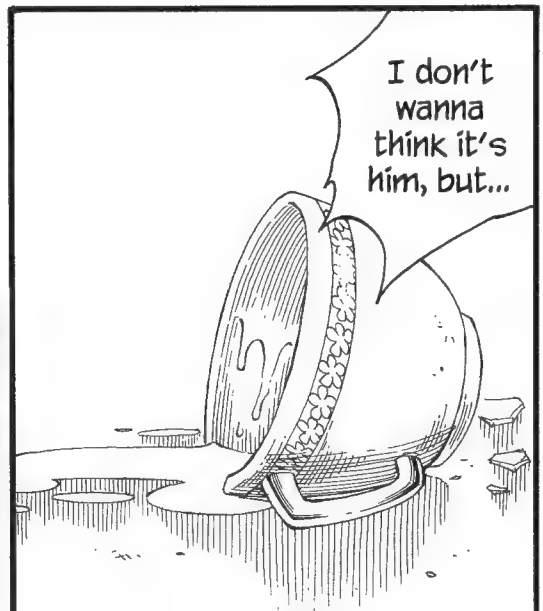


Some Council member musta leaked it to Tartaros!!!

Who?



Move!!!!
Erza and Mira are in danger
!!!!



I don't wanna think it's him, but...



PLEASE MAKE A
SWIFT RETURN
TO THE GUILD,
IF YOU WOULD.

AN ADMIRABLE
FEAT INDEED.
ONE BEFITTING
A FORMER
CHAIRMAN.





FAIRY TAIL

365 FAIRY IN THE JAIL

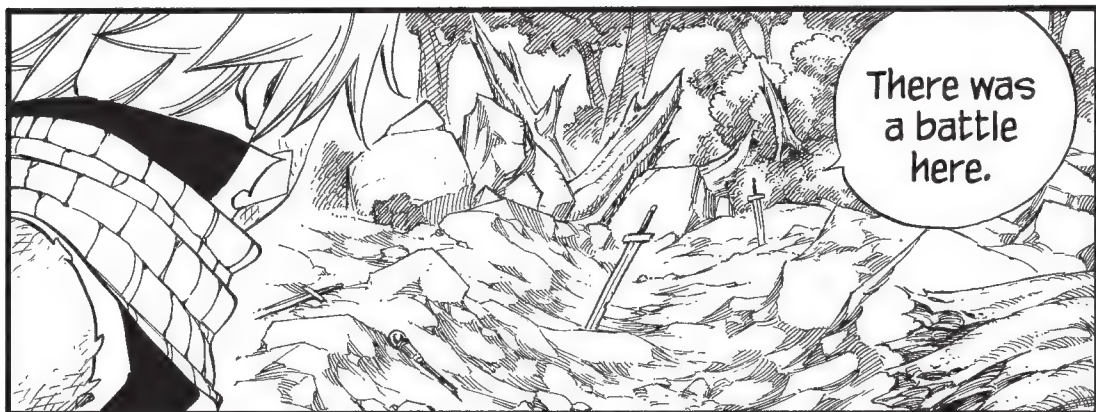


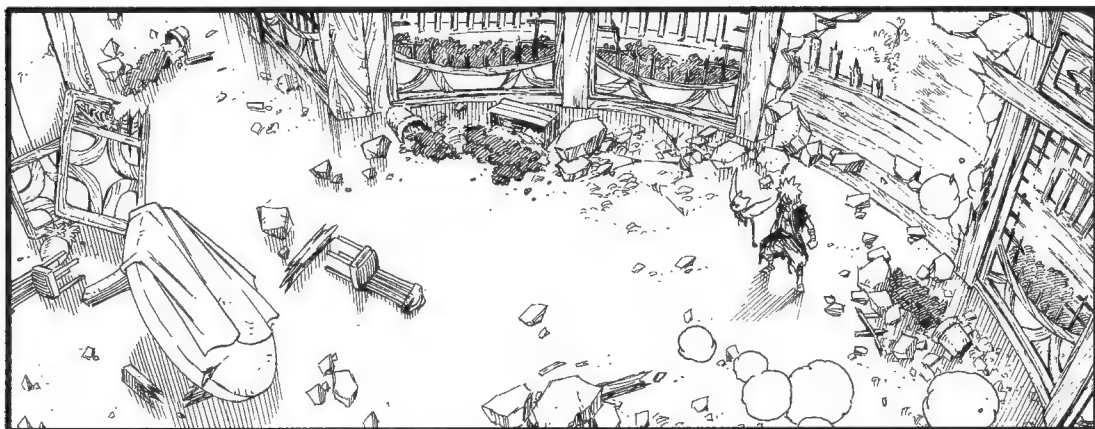
HIRO MASHIMA

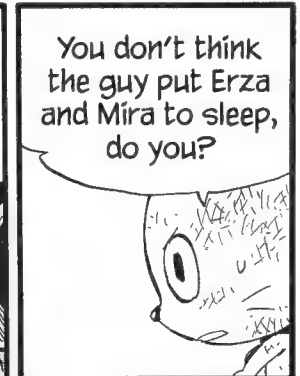
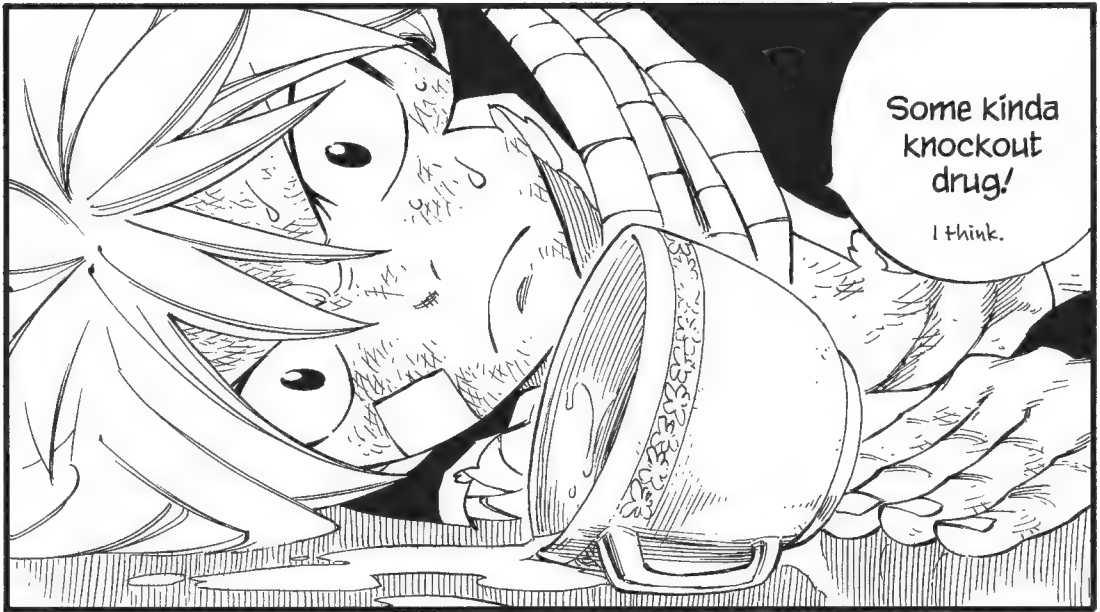
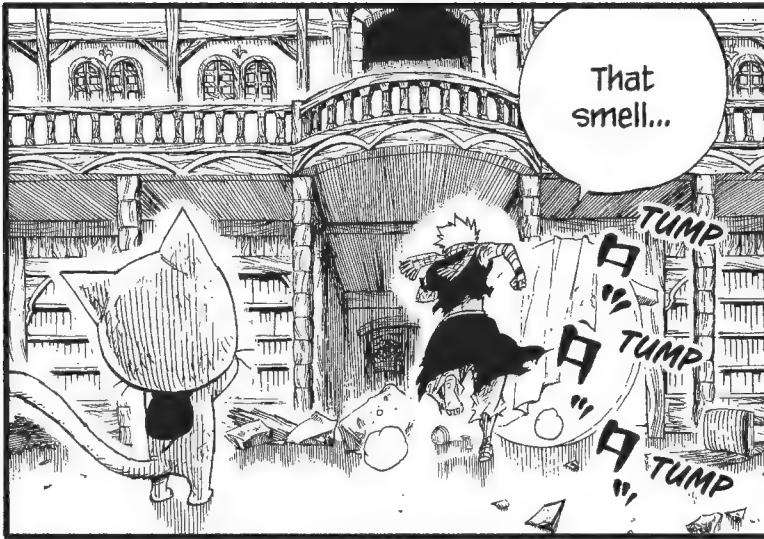




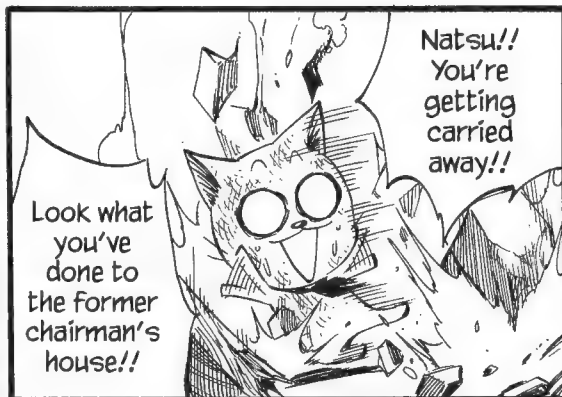
 FAIRYTAIL







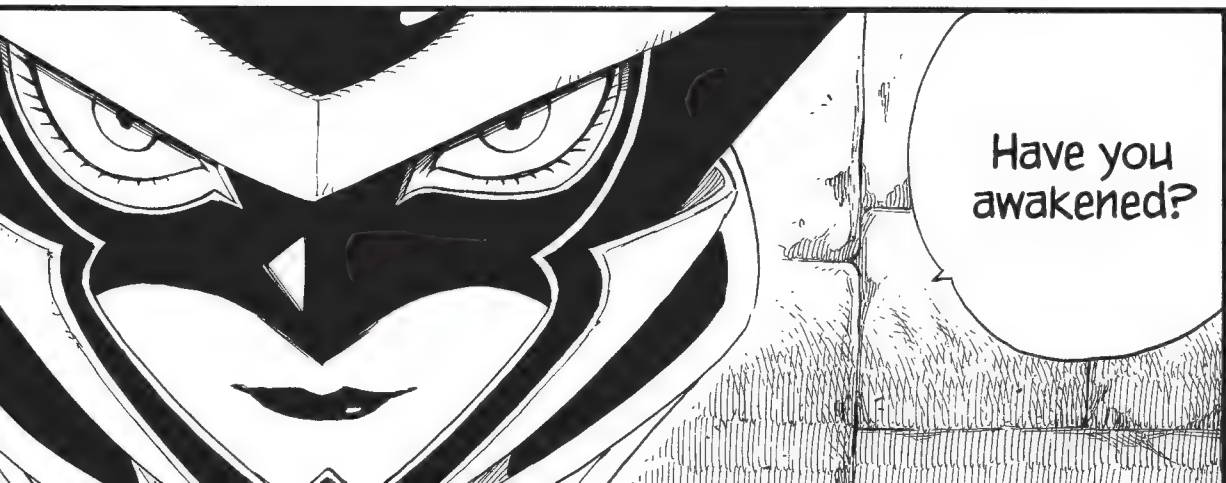
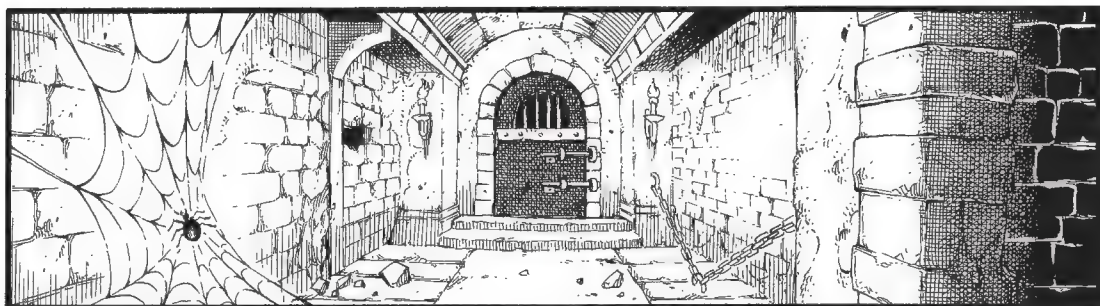
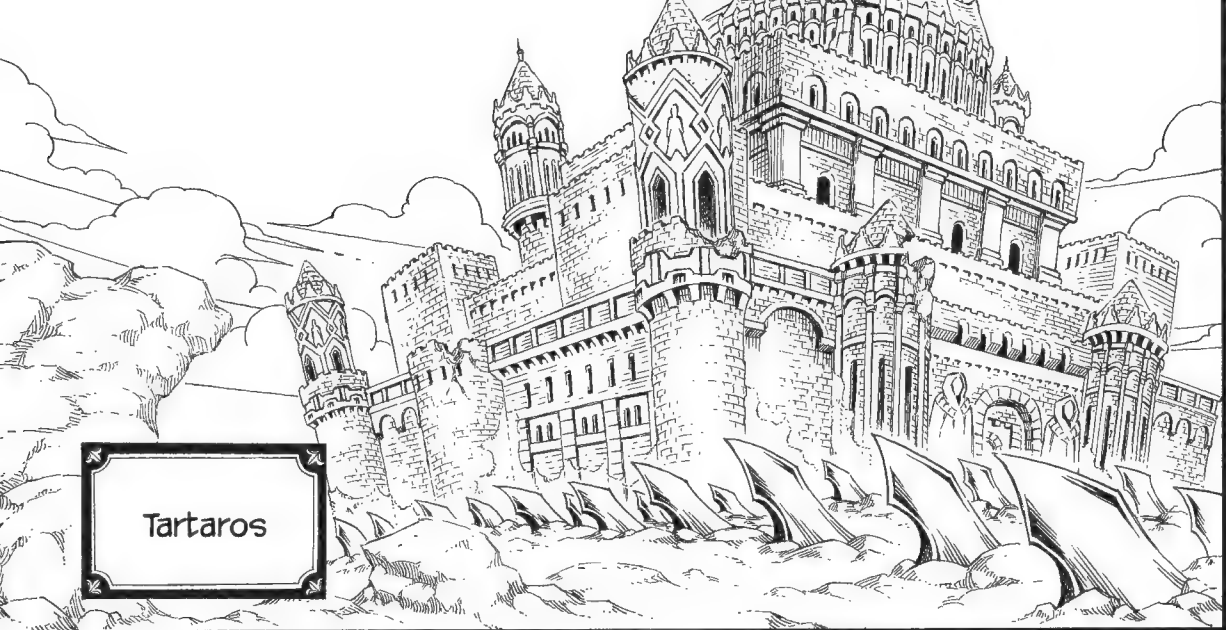






GRIMP

**A dragon's
nose ain't
nothin' to
scoff at!!!**







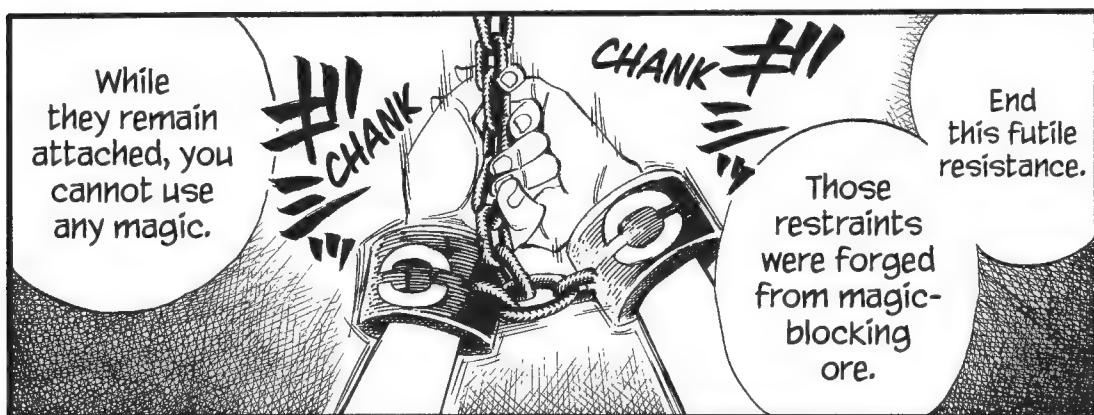
You have fallen
into his trap, and
now you are our
prisoner.

After our plans
have come to
fruition, he will
likely preside
over the Council
once again.

The former
chairman has
joined us.



That's
impossible!!!!
He would never
betray his
people!!!!



While
they remain
attached, you
cannot use
any magic.

Those
restraints
were forged
from magic-
blocking
ore.

End
this futile
resistance.



She yet
lives.



Mira....!!
Where
is my
friend?!!

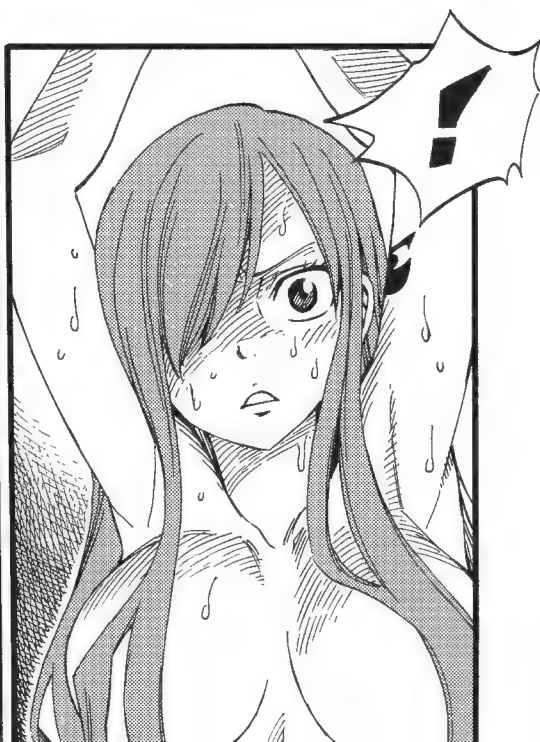
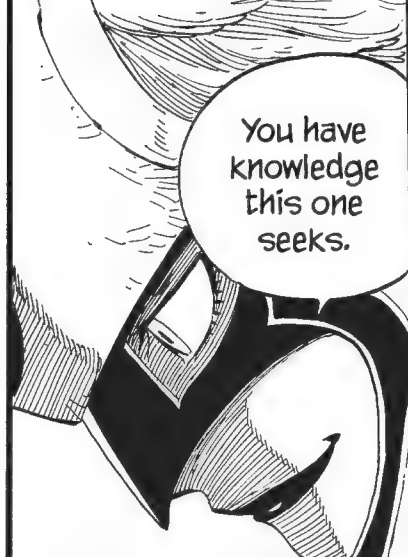


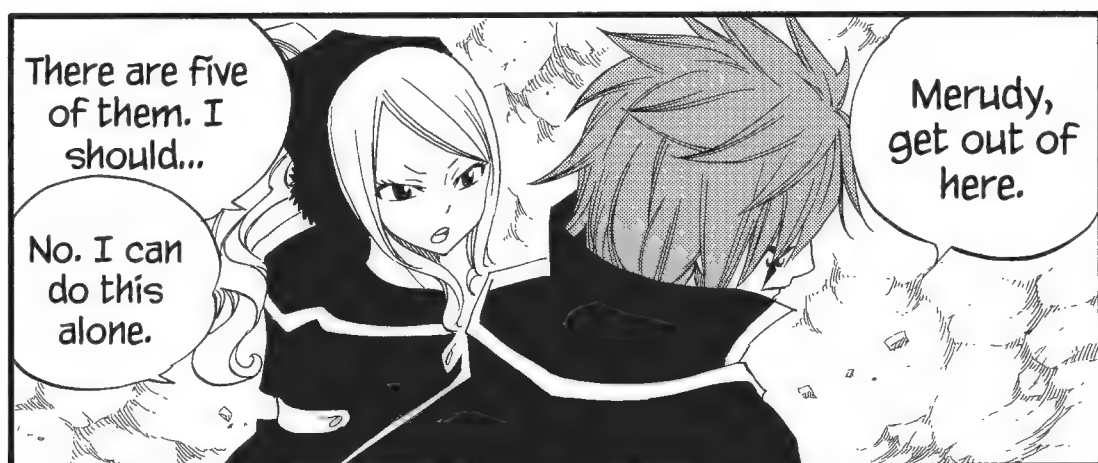
She will
become
this one's
subordinate.

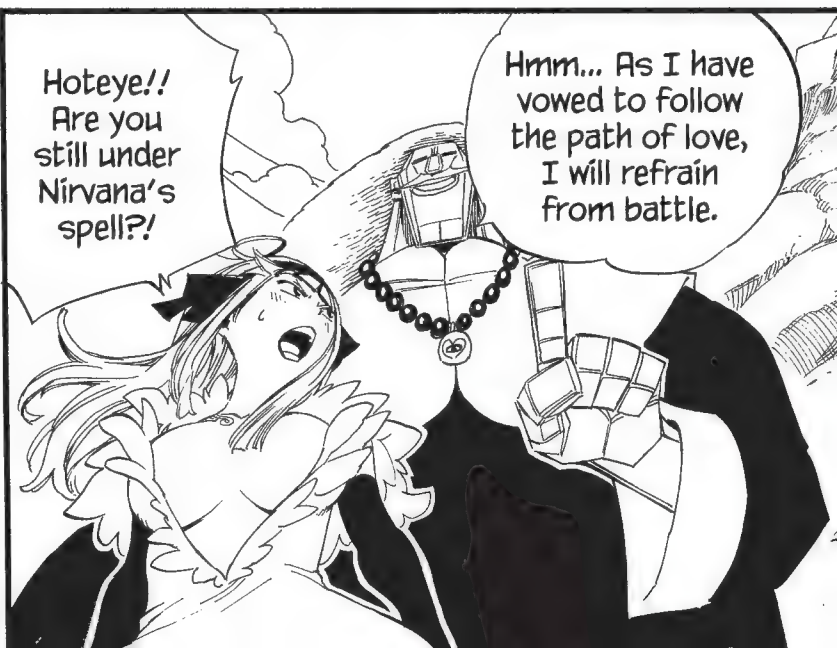
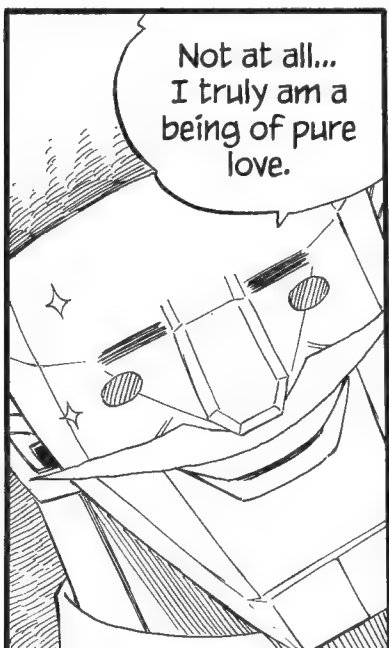
But to do
that, her
flesh must
be altered.

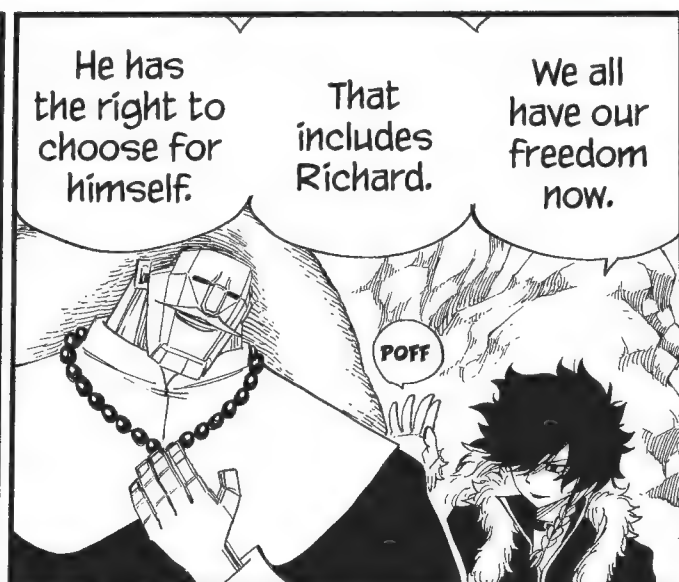


Don't
do it
!!!!











I got sick of waiting!

I'm already here!

SHUUM

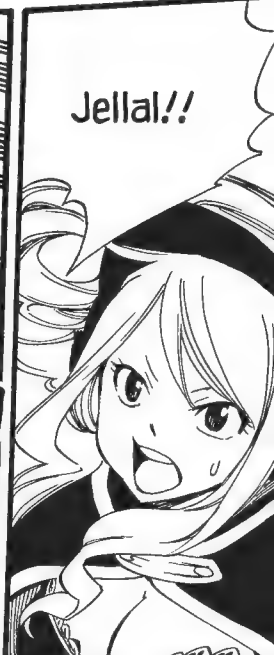


Who said you could call me by that name?!!!

You are fast, Sawyer.

WHOOSH

SHUUM



Jellal!!



UWAAH

VASHOOM

WHOOSH



Your
move-
ments...

I can
hear
them!!!



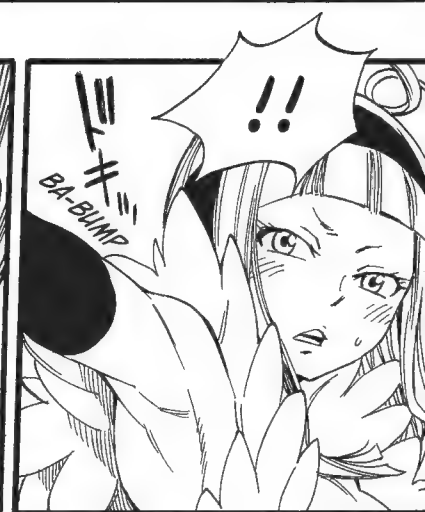
I can hear
yours too,
Erik.

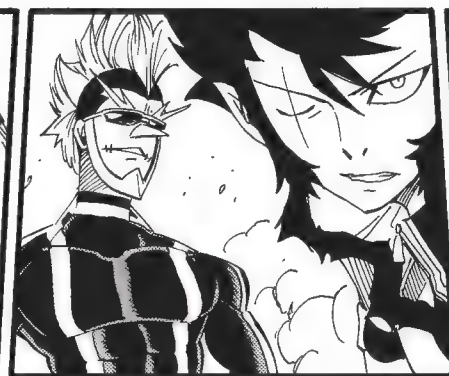
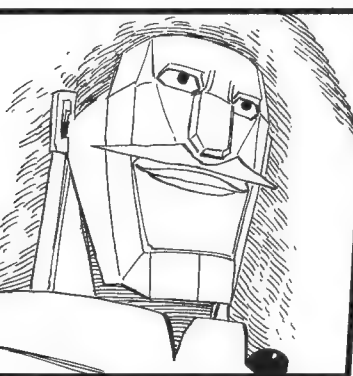


Gah!

WHAA
?!

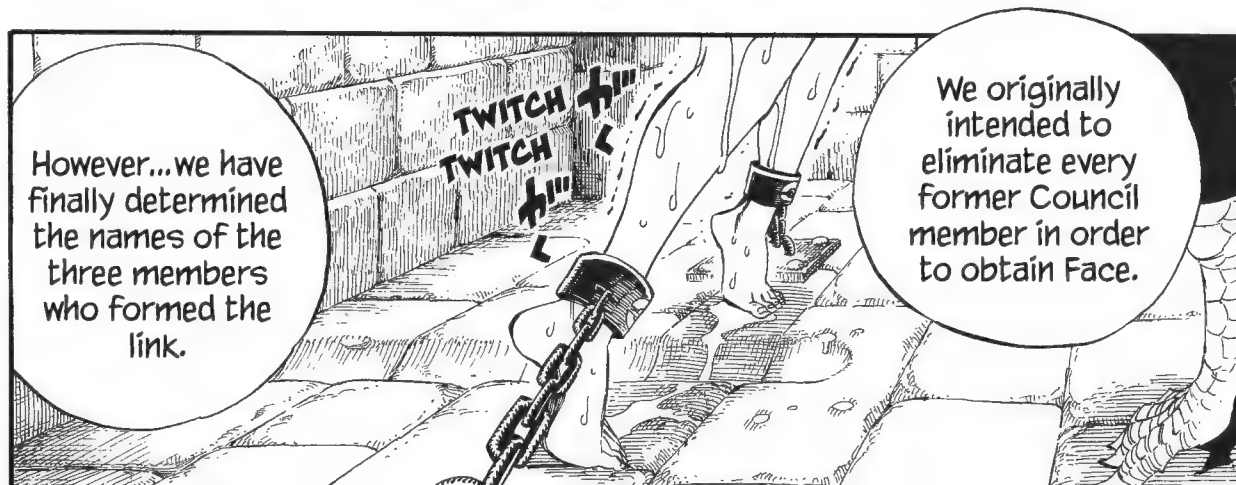
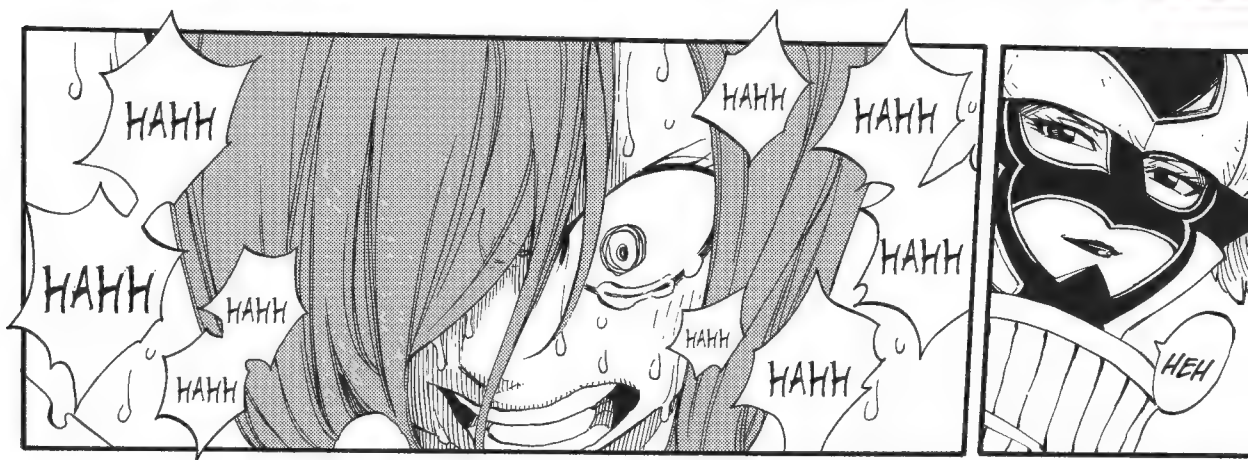
BOON















Once Jellal is dead, the wards around Face will dissolve.

!!

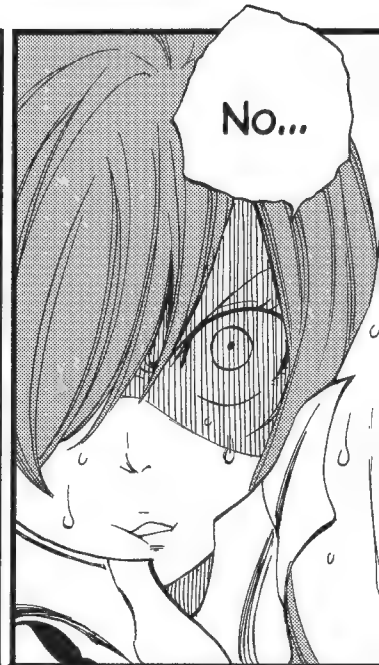


I don't know!! I honestly don't know where Jellal is!!

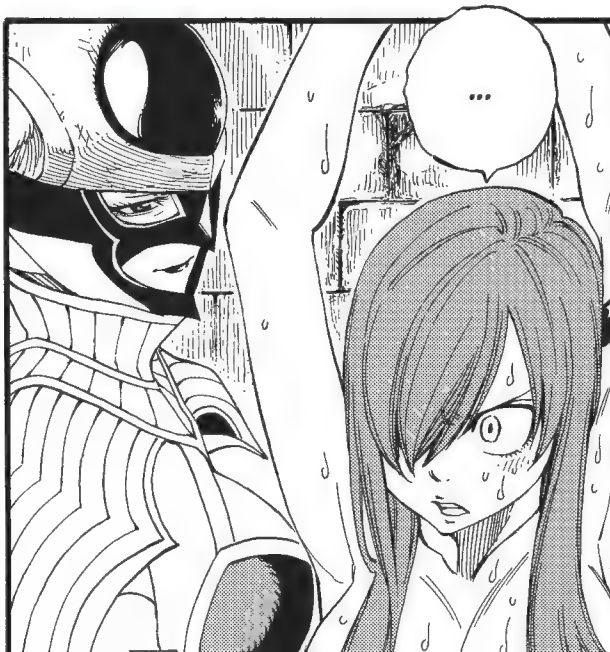
Oh, dear... Has this one let something slip? And now that you know, you will be yet more reluctant to talk.

Perhaps this will loosen your tongue?

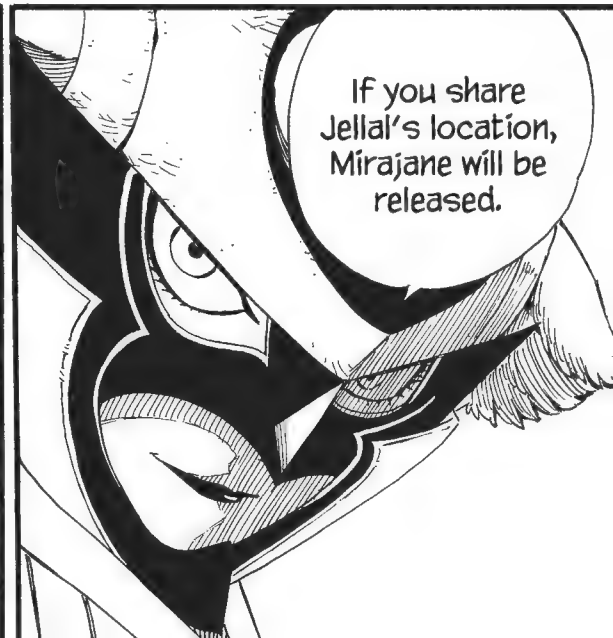
TAK
TAK
TAK



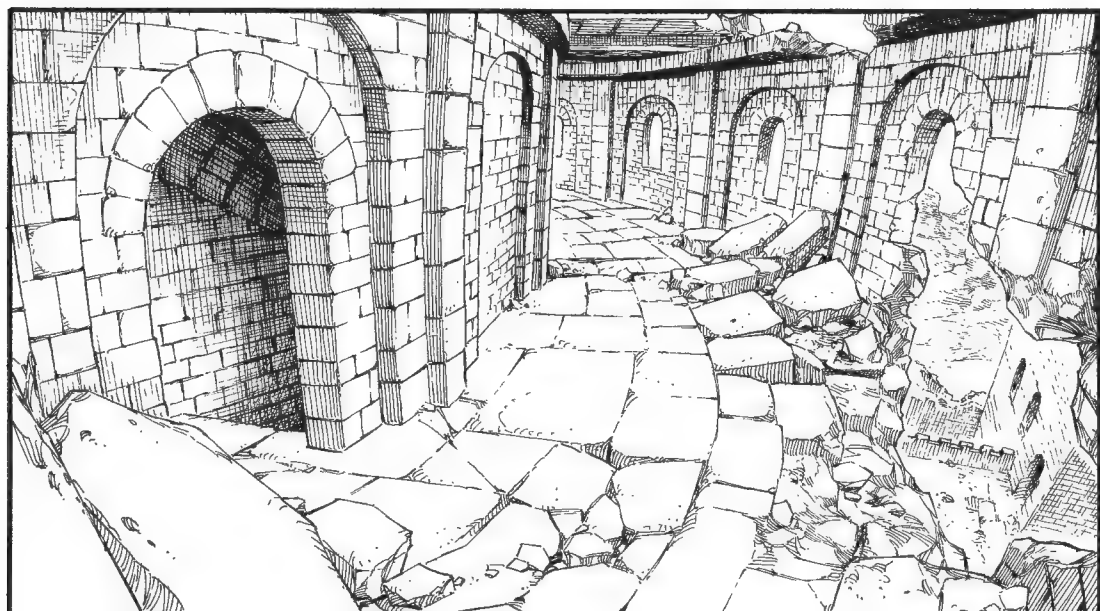
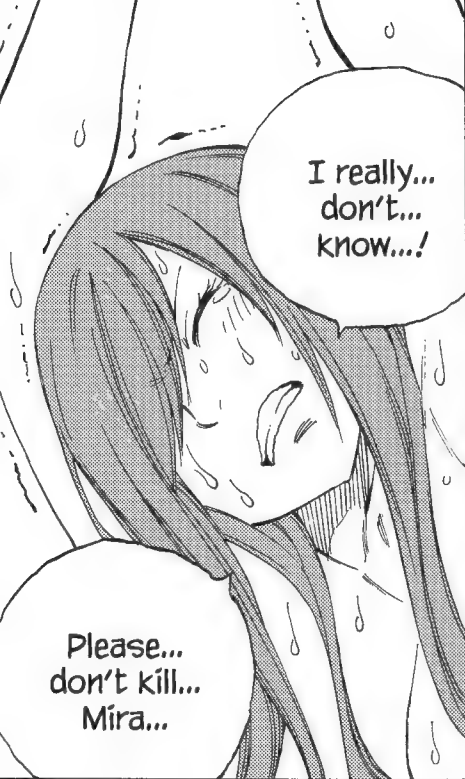
No...



...



If you share Jellal's location, Mirajane will be released.

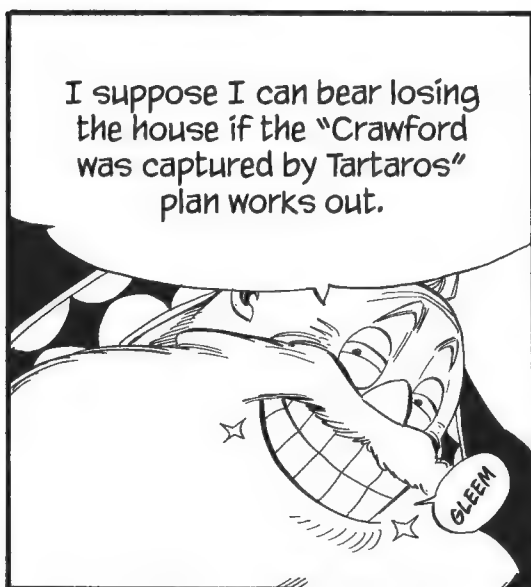




Remember, I gave up all of my retirement funds to take part in this plan!!

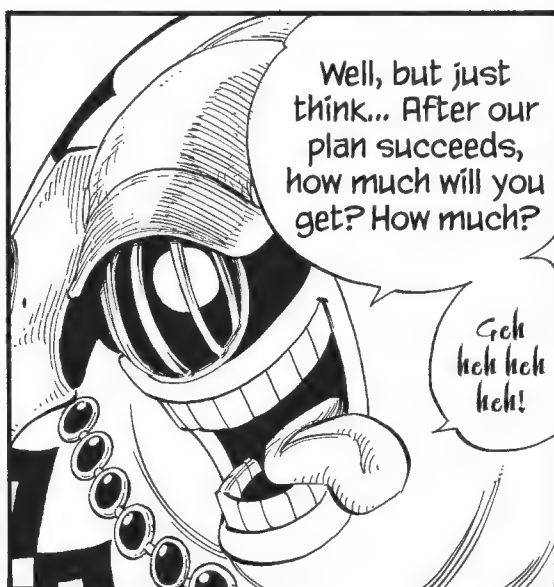
Aw, calm down, Chairman!

Your men ruined my house!!



I suppose I can bear losing the house if the "Crawford was captured by Tartaros" plan works out.

GLEEM



Well, but just think... After our plan succeeds, how much will you get? How much?

Geh
heh heh
heh!



Don't worry. First of all, no one will ever be able to find this place.



They had better be!! If they live through this, they may be able to cast doubt on me!!



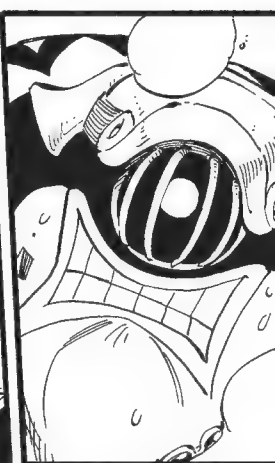
What have you done with the two girls I brought in?

Kyôka-sama's questioning them. They're in for a painful death.



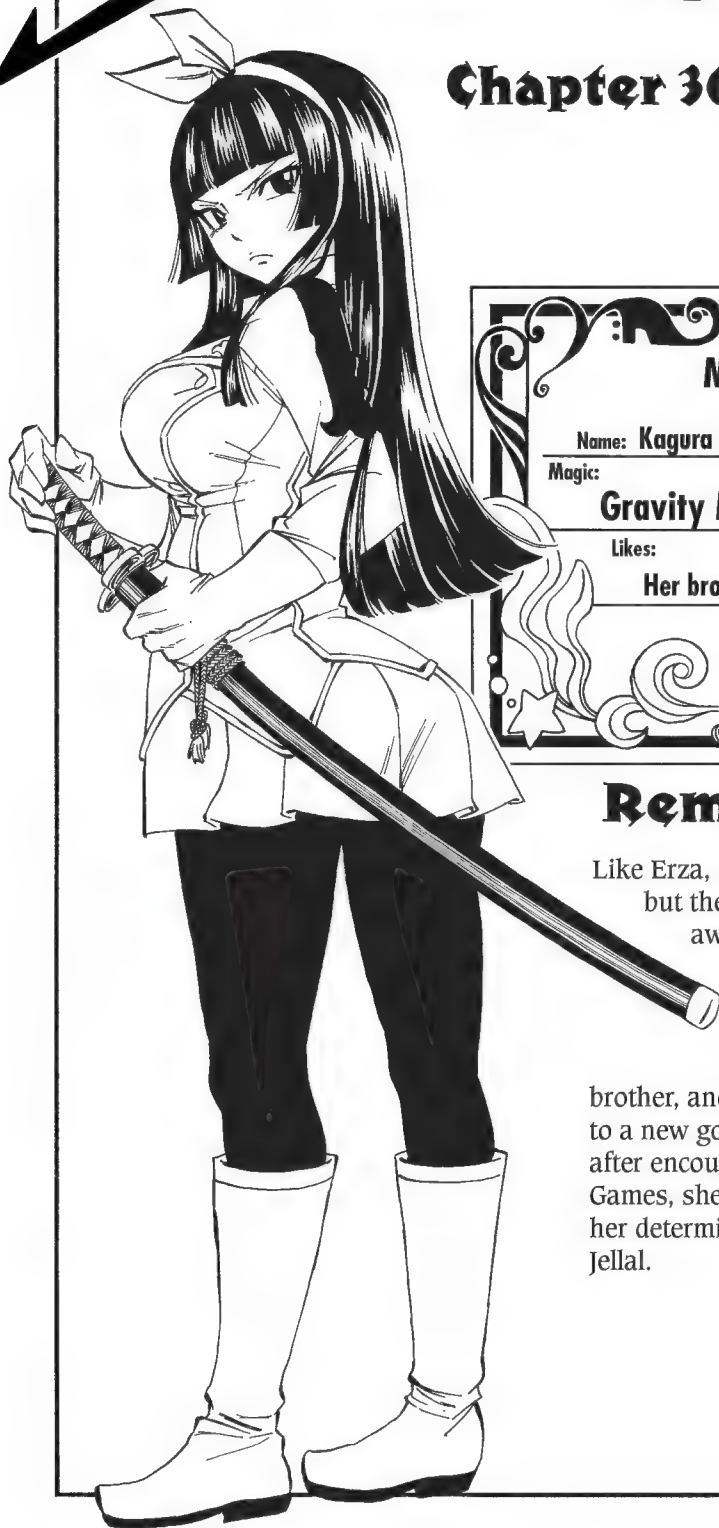


I
FOUND
YOU
!!!!!!



FAIRY TAIL

Chapter 366: 1,000 Souls



MERMAID HEEL

Name: Kagura Mikazuchi Age: 23

Magic:

Gravity Magic, among others

Likes:

Her brother

Dislikes:

Jellal



Remarks

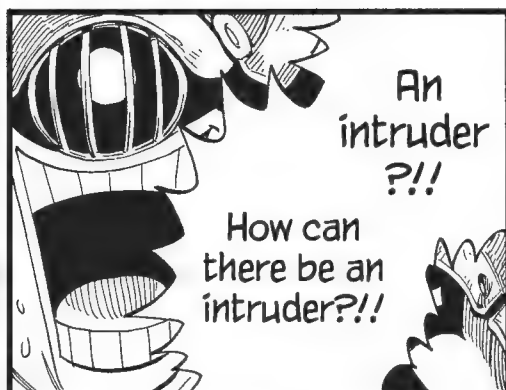
Like Erza, she came from Rosemary Village, but the child snatchers took her brother away. Ever since then, she's studied magic and the sword in order to find him again.

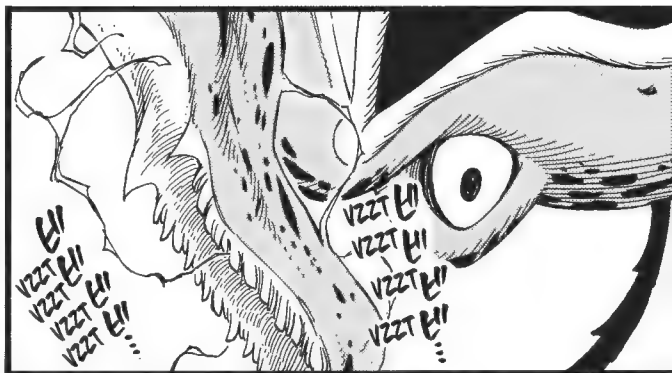
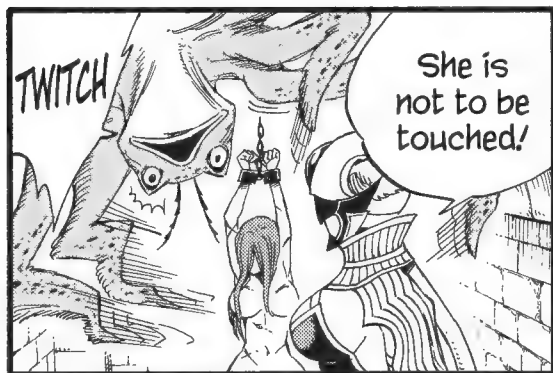
When she met Millianna, she learned about the death of her brother, and decided to dedicate her sword to a new goal: revenge against Jellal. But after encountering Erza in the Grand Magic Games, she has started to have doubts about her determination as well as her hatred of Jellal.



**...Erza
and
Mira
?!!!**

**Where
are...**



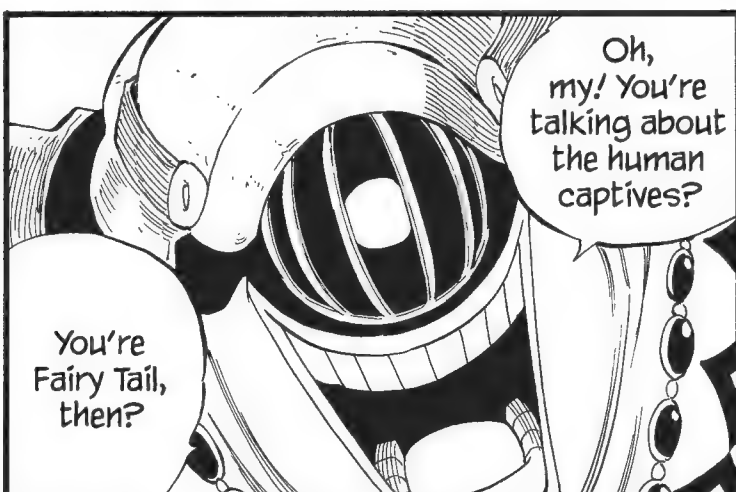




Gimme Erza
and Mira
back!!!!



So they
are here!

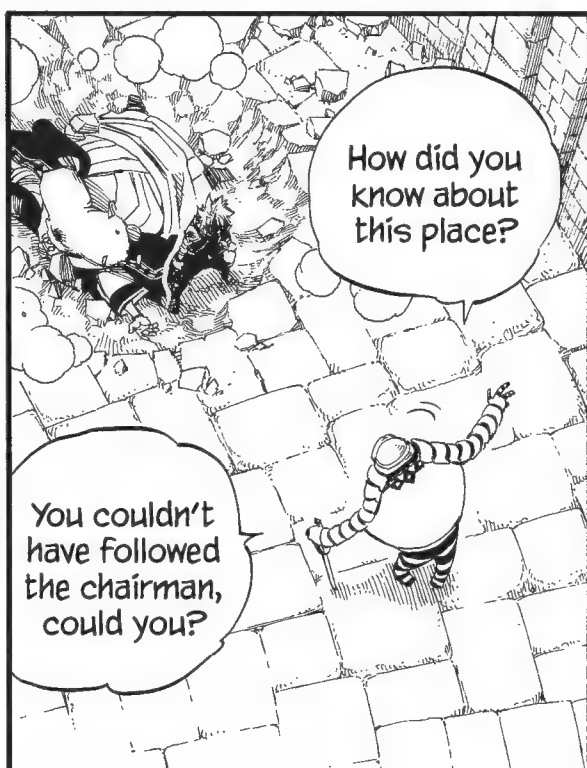


Oh,
my! You're
talking about
the human
captives?

You're
Fairy Tail,
then?



How much
will he pay for
this blunder?
How much?!

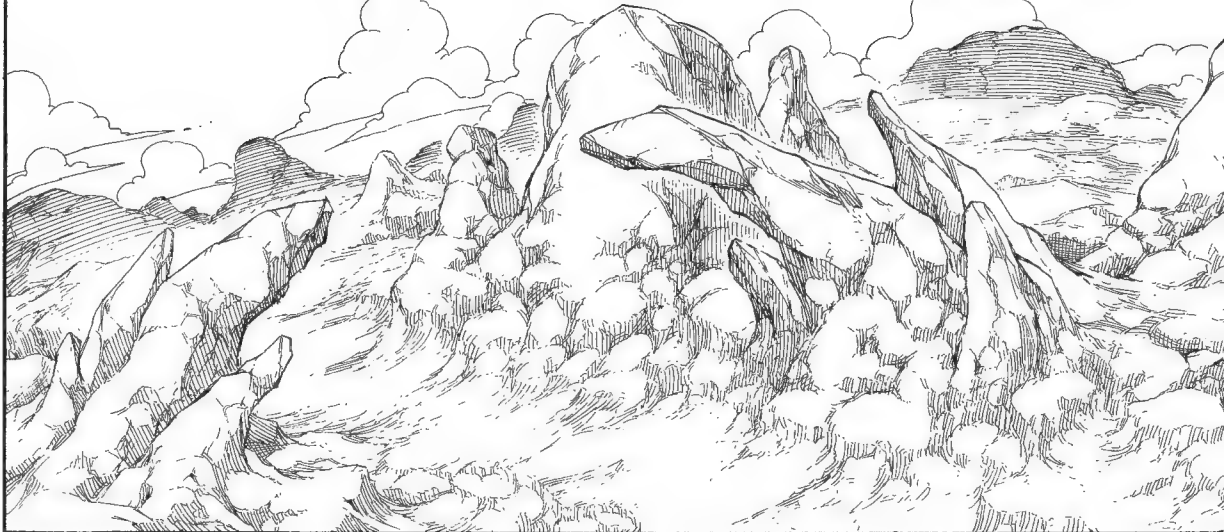


How did you
know about
this place?

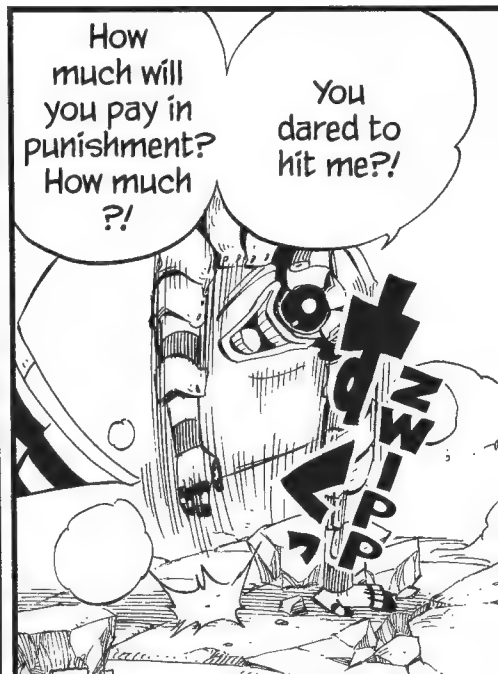
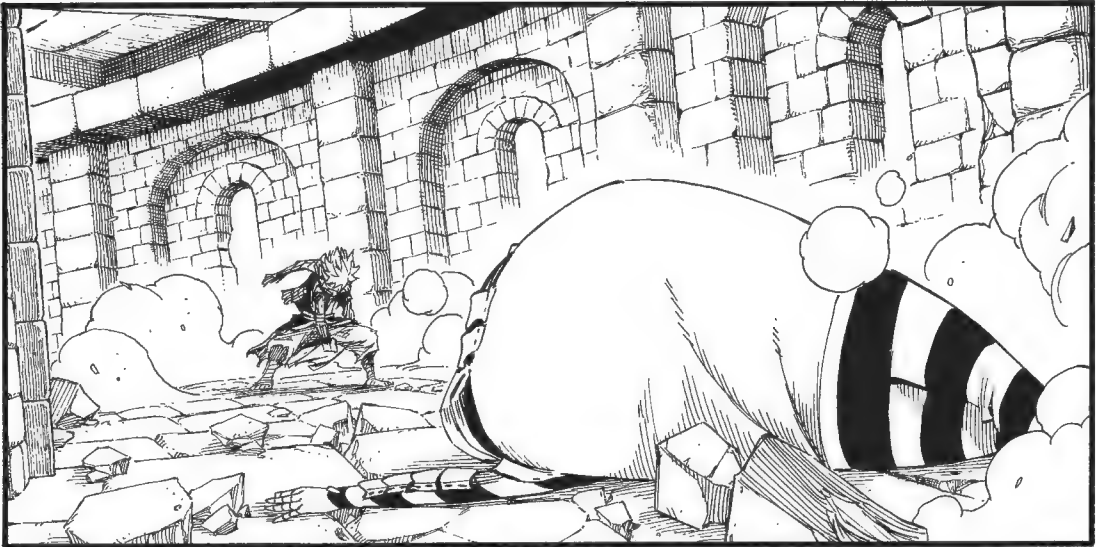
You couldn't
have followed
the chairman,
could you?

*You
talk too
much
!!!!*









**The price
is 1,000
souls!!!!**

**WAAAAH
VYUUUM**

WOOOSH

GYUUM

His body
stretches
!!





Argh!

BOOM

That hurt!!!!



WHOOSH

WHOOSH

SHUUN



to to to

EEEE
GYEEE
EEEEEE
!!!!



What are you doing to Happy?!!!

FIIII
WOOO



*Fire Dragon's

Karyū
no*
...

WHACK

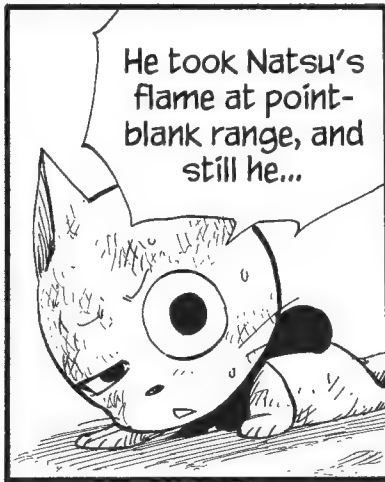
NGAH!!

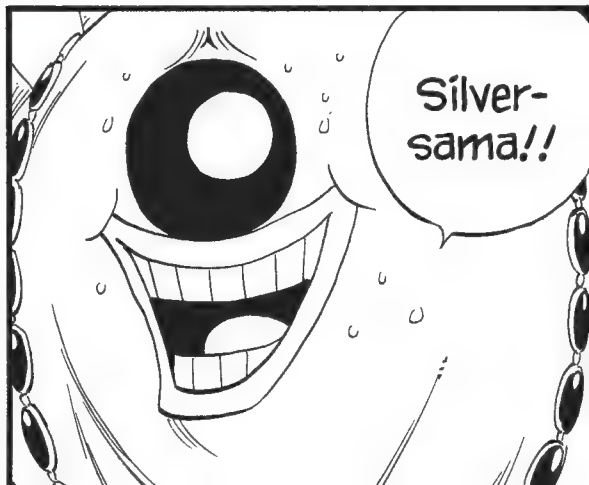
...
**ÄKÜ-
GEKI***
!!!!

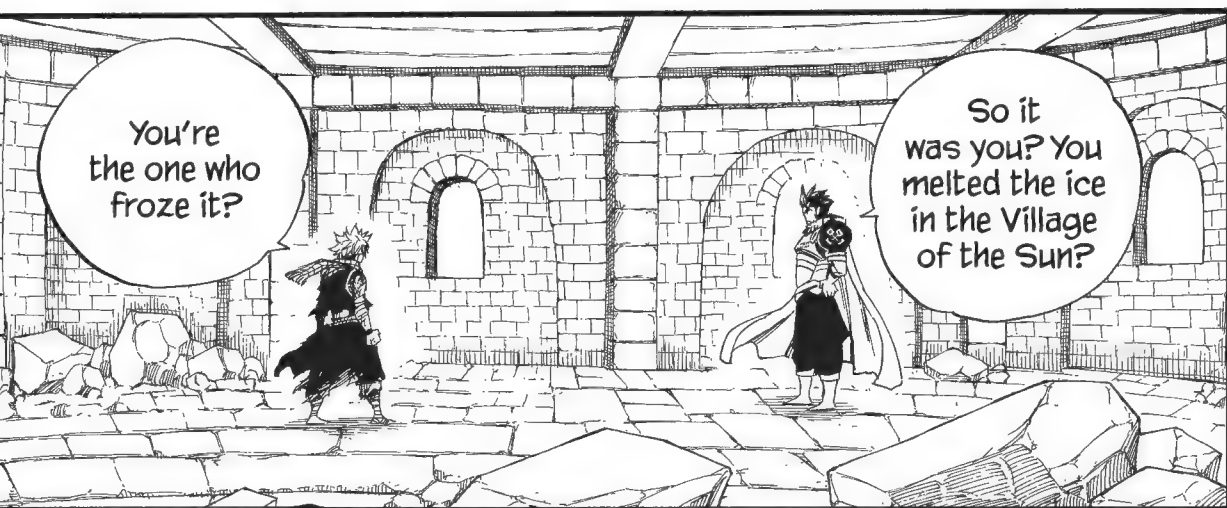
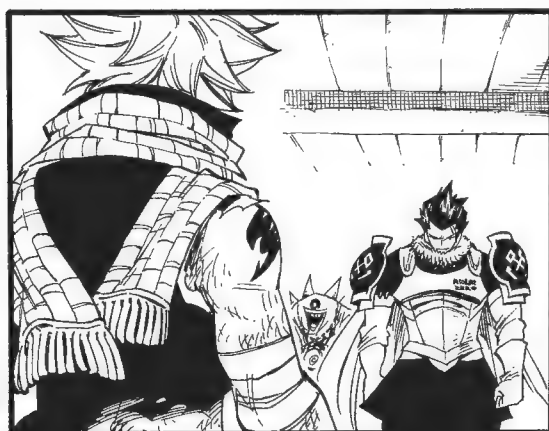
DOOOOM

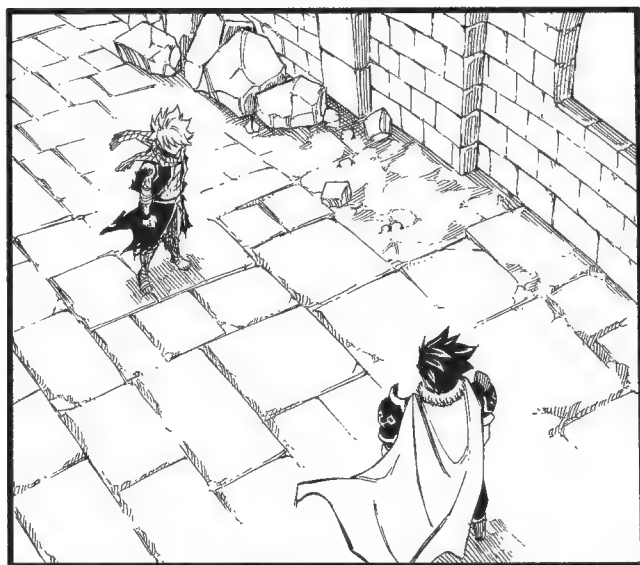
*Crushing Blitz

!!ZIANB

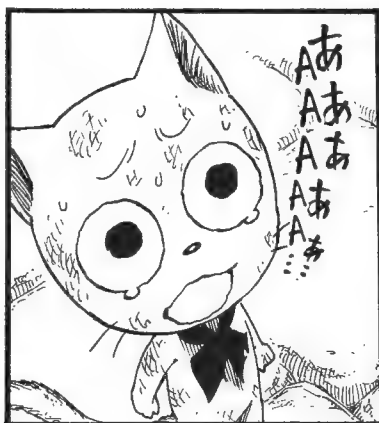













FAIRYTAIL

Chapter 367: Jellal vs. Oración Seis



MERMAID HEEL	
Name: Millianna	Age: 23
Magic: Binding Magic	
Likes: Cats	Dislikes: Shrimp & Lobster

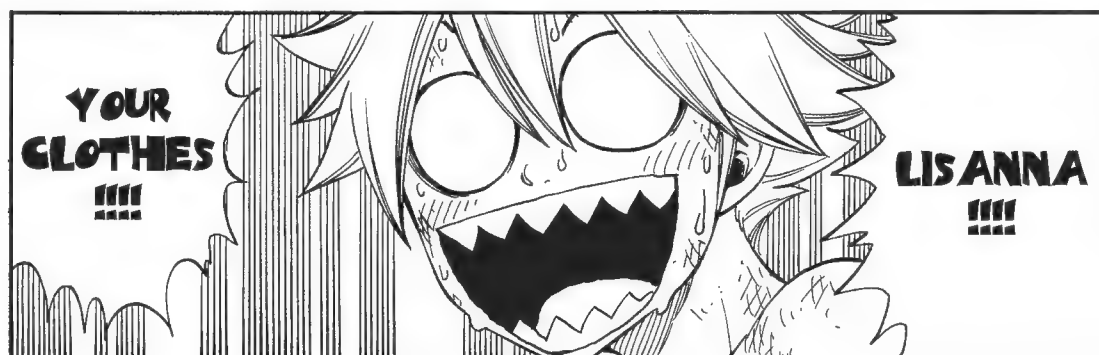


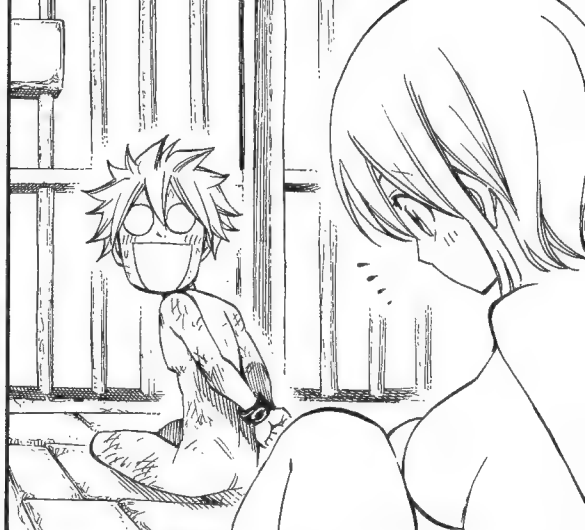
Remarks

While out traveling, she met Kagura, and was immediately charmed by her. After that, she entered Mermaid Heel and improved her skills. Knowing she and Erza would finally be reunited at the Grand Magic Games, Millianna wore a hood so she could surprise her.

She is still in contact with Shô and Wally while the two are happily traveling the world. Her favorite saying is, "Are you all pumped up?"







I don't believe this!!!
It's just too horrible!!!!

Why do they gotta steal our clothes?

Maybe they want to show us humans that we're less than animals?!!
It's completely humiliating...



They have Erza and my sister too?!!

Erza and Mira should be here, too. We gotta bust us all out somehow!

CHANK



Yeah... I don't remember a thing, though.

So they got you too?

Who would expect that they'd manage to capture so many of us...?



This enemy is way better than any we've faced before...

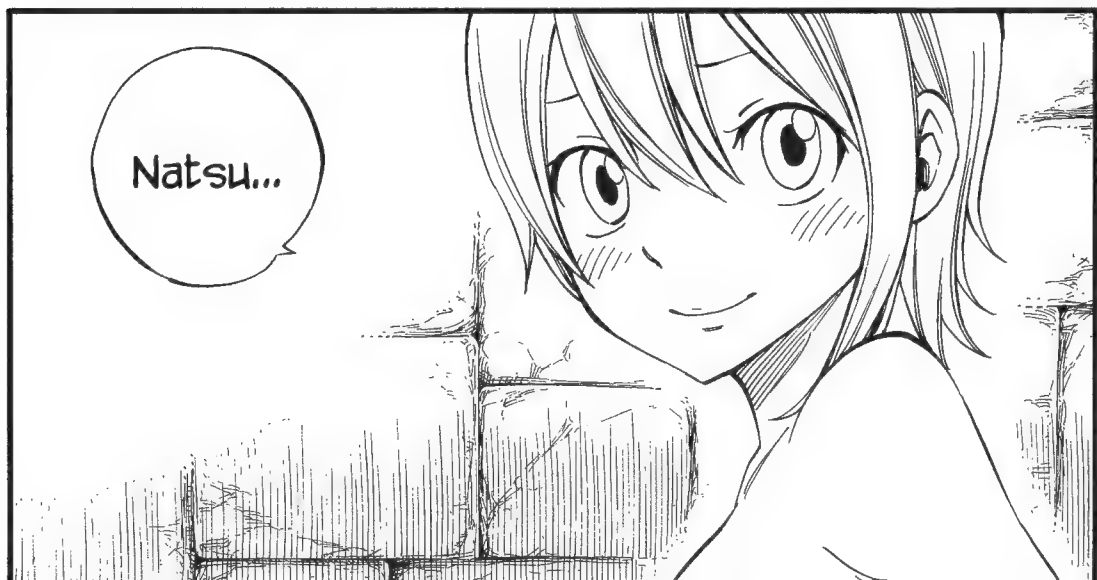


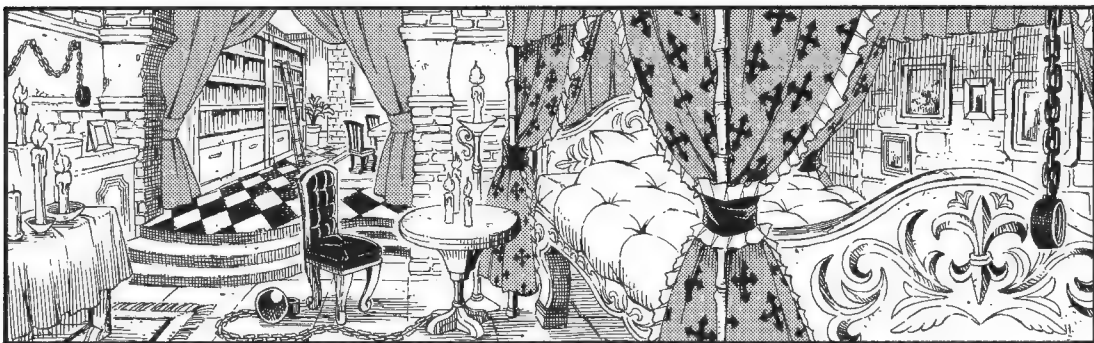
What'll we do...? I'll bet Elf is locked up, too...

But first, we gotta get outta here!!!

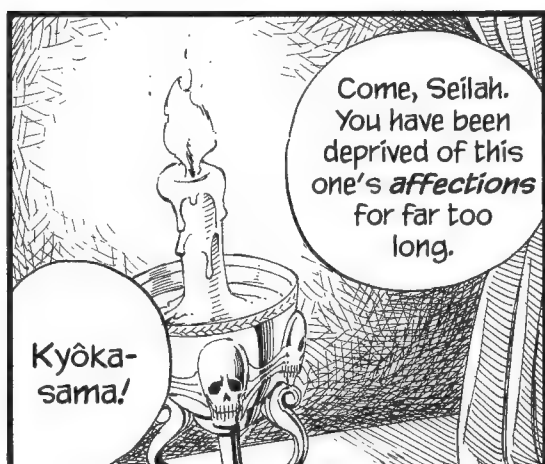
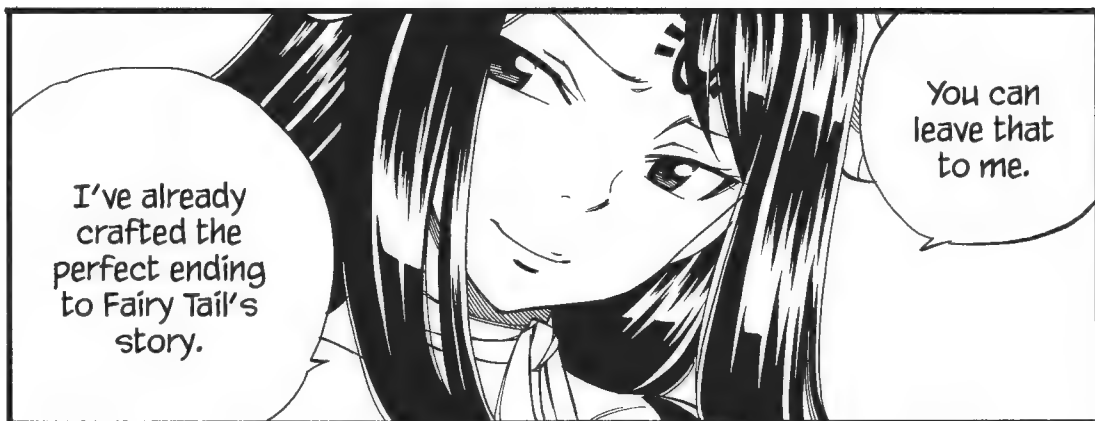
Ain't nothing different!! We're still gonna win!!!

Natsu...











But... I
can't just
leave you
alone...

Merudy,
get out of
here!!



Jellal!!



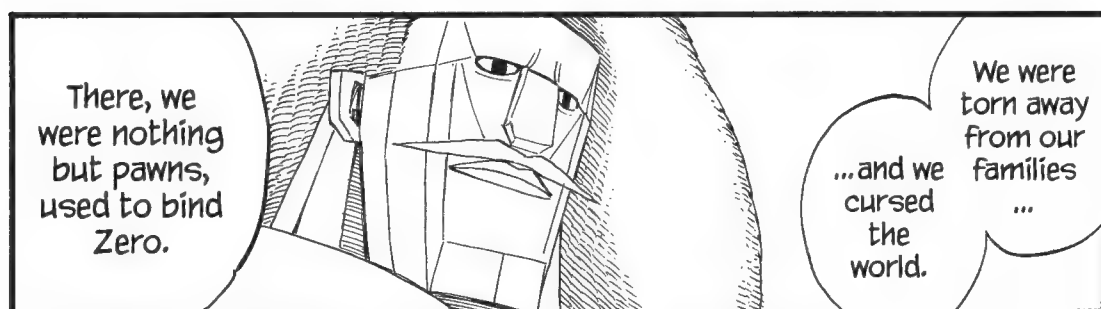
This is
something I
must do!!



Nobody
!!!

Nobody's
gonna take our
freedom away
from us!!!!







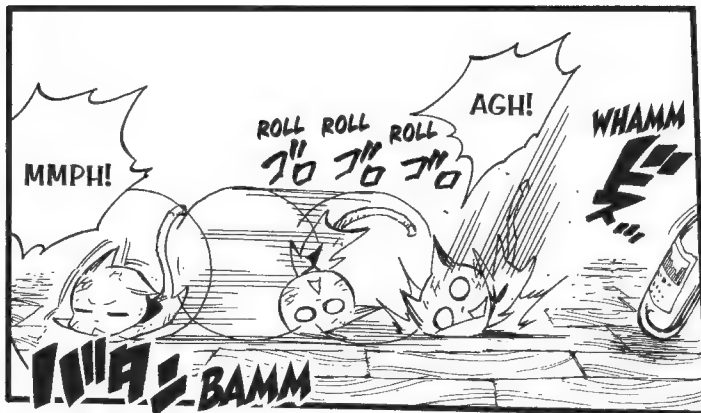






We found
their main
guild hall!!!!

We
found
it!!!



MMPH!

ROLL ROLL ROLL

AGH!

WHAMM

BAMM



Happy!!!!

FLUTTER

FLUTTER



Aye!!!

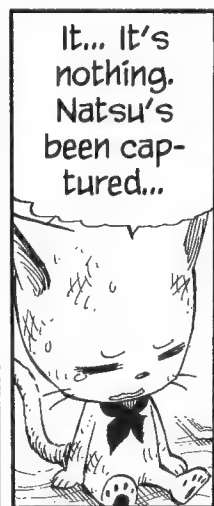
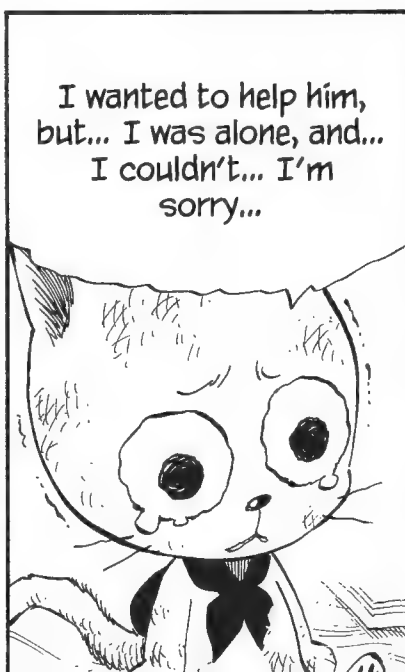
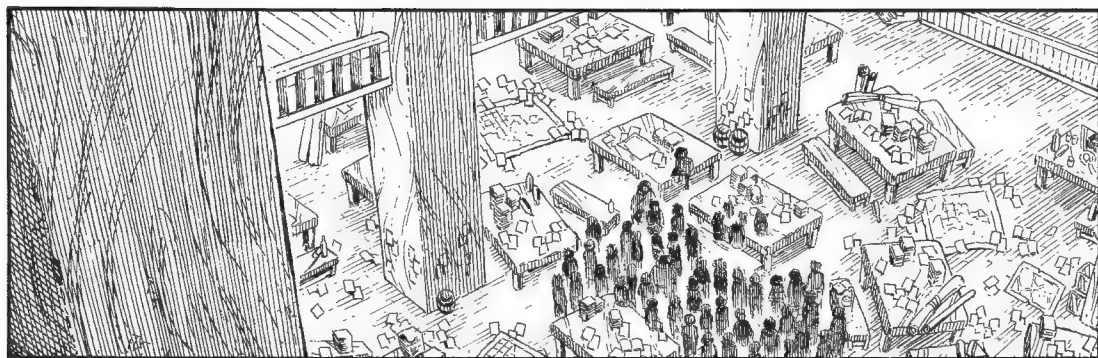
Calm
yourself!

SLAP



Erza and
Mira got
captured...!!!

The former
chairman is a
traitor....!!!
And even
Natsu is....!!!
And I....!!!





Their
base moves
around.

It's some
weird cube
island in the
sky...



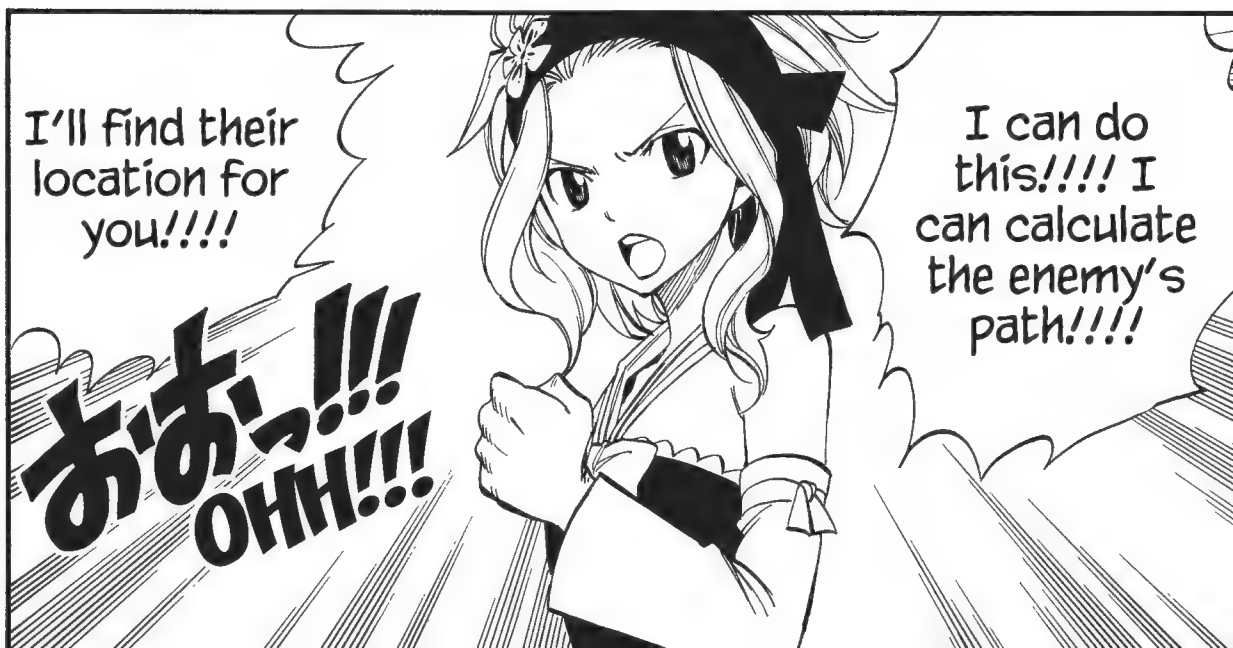
I... came at it
from this way...
and it was moving
that way...

Happy,
do you know
approximately
where it was and
which way it was
headed?



So even
now, we don't
know its true
location.

It
moves?



I'll find their
location for
you!!!!

おあ!!!
OHH!!!

I can do
this!!!! I
can calculate
the enemy's
path!!!!



I... left
Natsu back
there...



Right
!!!!

Everybody
else, get
ready
to move
out!!!

Then
get
on it,
Levy!!!



Right?

No, you didn't...
You did your best to
make it back here
fast so we can save
all of them!

Aye.



Huh?
Where's
Lisanna?

You're all
right?!

Elfman!!



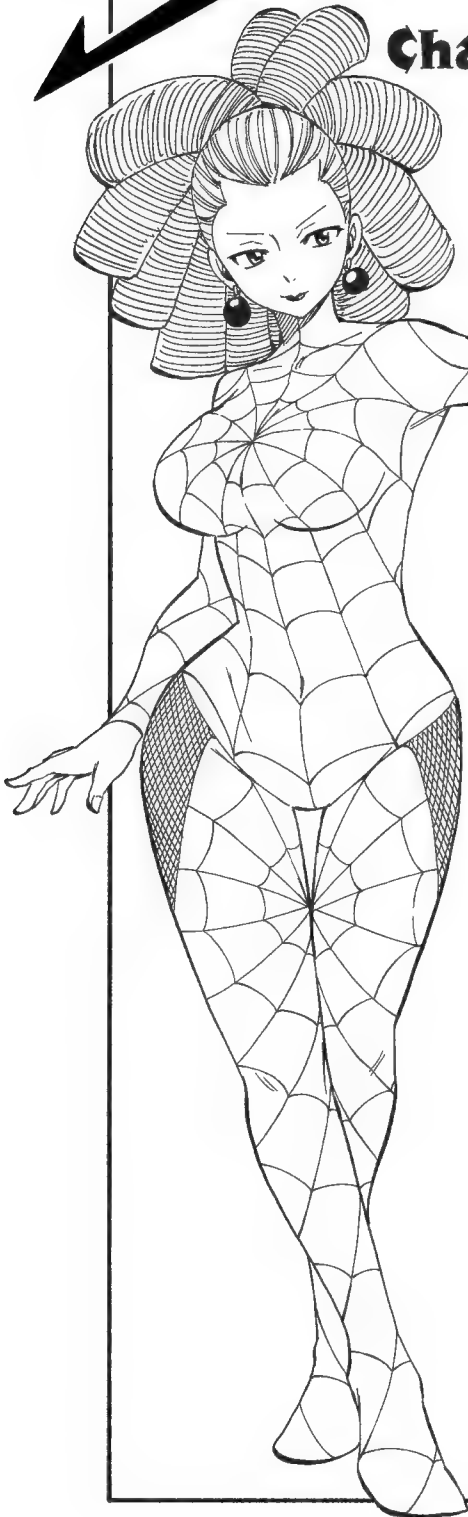
STOMP

STOMP




FAIRYTAIL

Chapter 368: The Third Ward



Remarks

A wizard who can control threads at will. She wears a design that looks like a spider's web, but actually she hates spiders. She has a bright personality that's made her particularly popular in Mermaid Heel. A long time ago, she was studying the making of oden, and was trying to come up with original oden dishes. One of her creations, "Nattô Oden," a mixture of oden and nattô fermented beans, was particularly unpopular.

A black and white manga panel showing Elfman in a dynamic, crouched pose. He has long, spiky hair and is wearing a simple loincloth. The background consists of jagged, angular lines suggesting a rocky or architectural environment.

Why didn't
you contact
us?!!

Elfman, what
about Lisanna-
na?!!

A black and white manga panel showing a group of men in a room. In the foreground, a man with a large nose and a top hat looks shocked. Behind him, another man with a mustache and a third man with a top hat are also looking concerned. To the right, a large, dark, patterned object, possibly a curtain or a piece of furniture, is visible.

...captured!

Lisanna
was...

A black and white manga panel showing a close-up of a man's face. He has long, spiky hair and a serious expression. His eyes are closed, and there are sweat drops on his forehead.

We were
too late to
save Elder
Yuri...

A black and white manga panel showing Lisanna and a cat. Lisanna is holding the cat, which has a large, round face and a small body. She has a surprised expression.

Even
Lisanna
...?

You're
kidding...

A black and white manga panel showing two men looking at each other. The man on the left has spiky hair and a surprised expression. The man on the right has a more serious expression. There are sweat drops on the man on the left's forehead.

!!





Cana, will
you stop
it?

Lost them?!
You can turn into a
beast! Why couldn't
you keep up with
them?!

But it
doesn't
make sense!



Sorry...

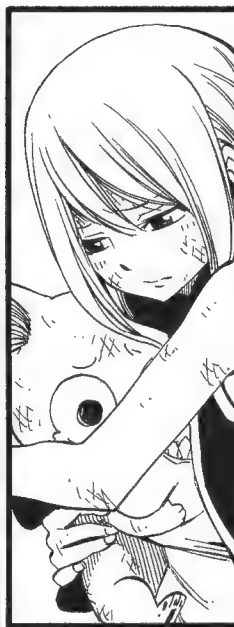
I need
to rest
a bit.

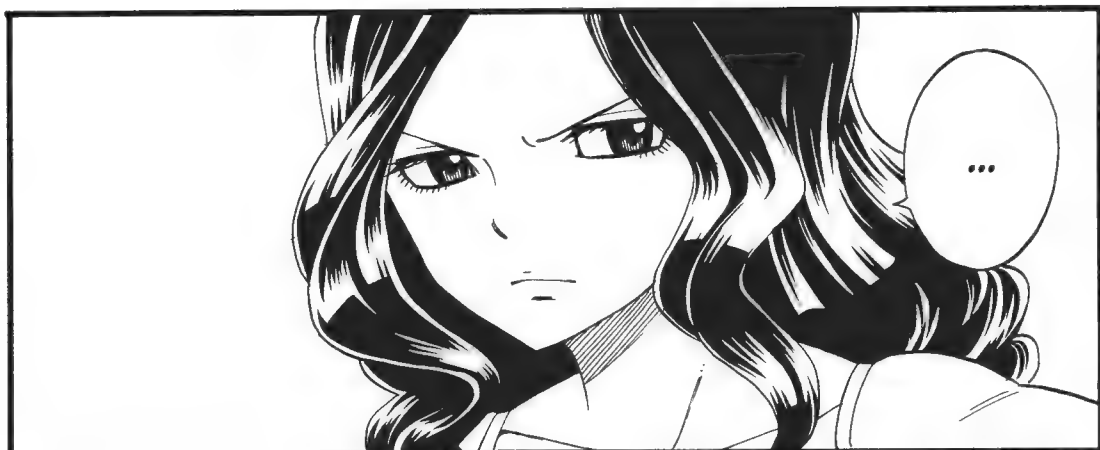


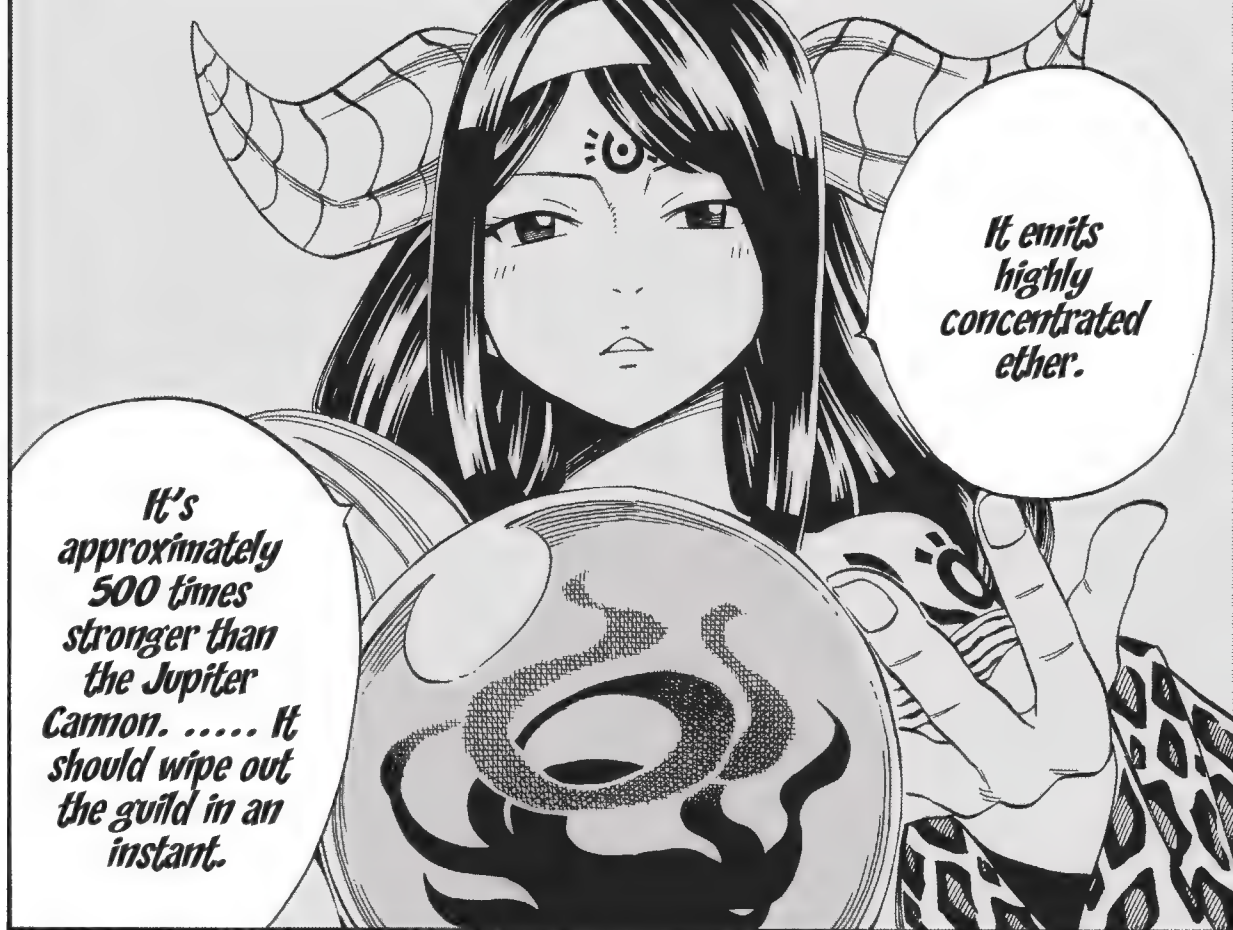
You didn't
have to be so
hard on him!



Everybody's...
on edge right
now, huh?







*It emits
highly
concentrated
ether.*

*It's
approximately
500 times
stronger than
the Jupiter
Canon. It
should wipe out
the guild in an
instant.*

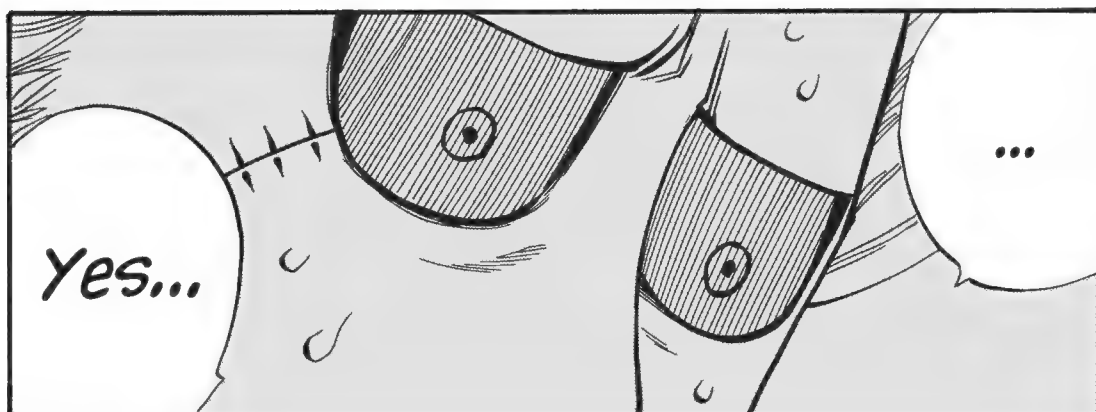


*You will
do it.*



*I
can't do
that...*

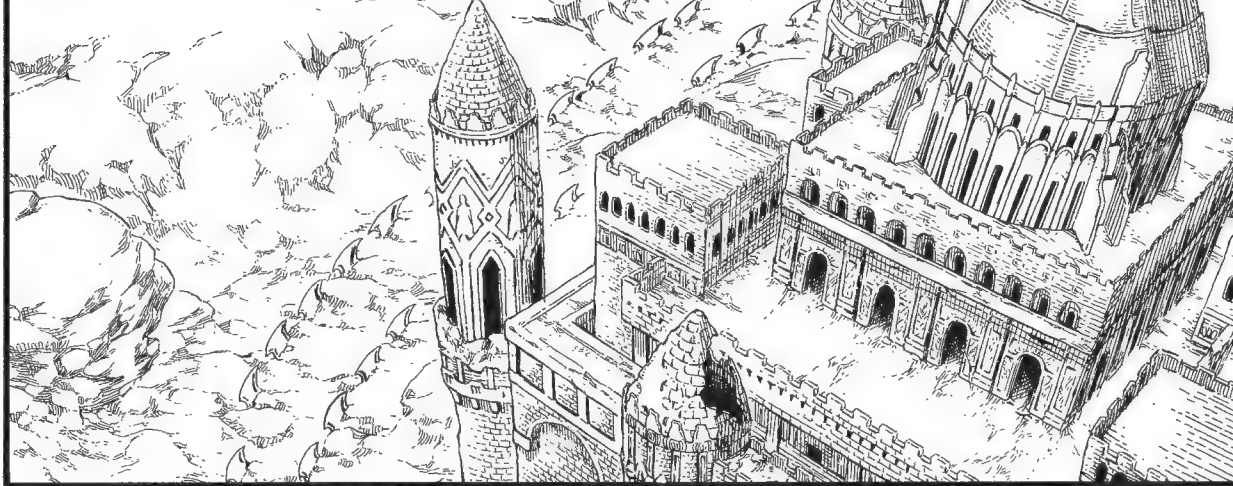
*That's
awful...*



Yes...

...



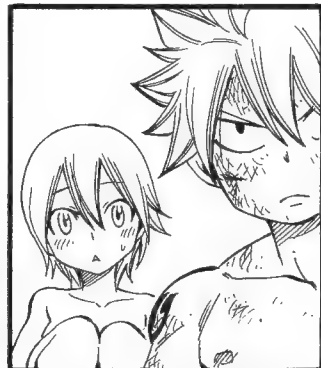


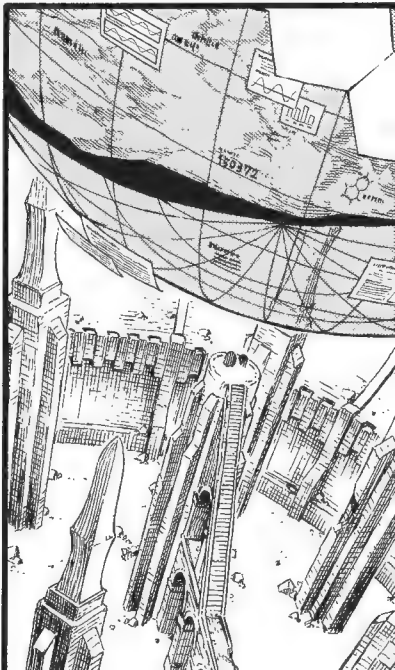
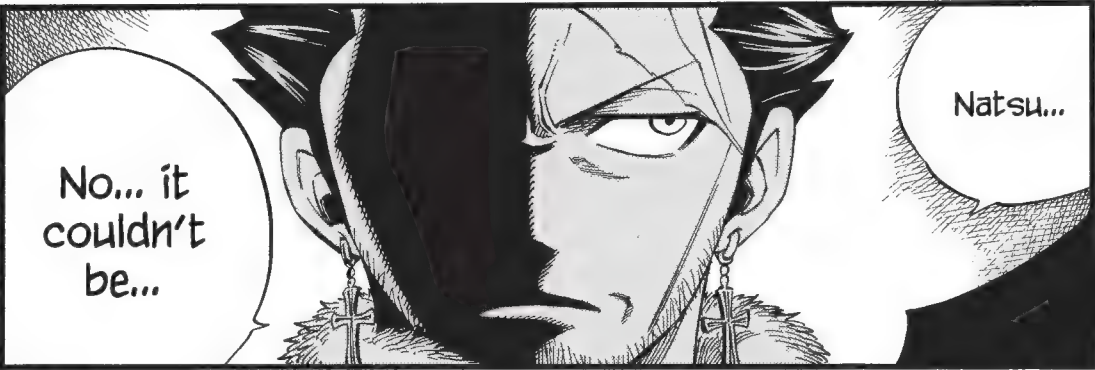
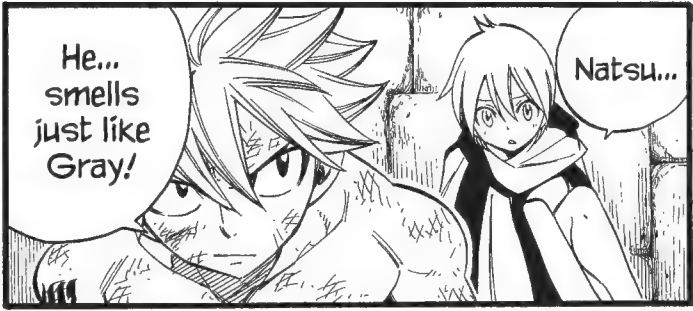
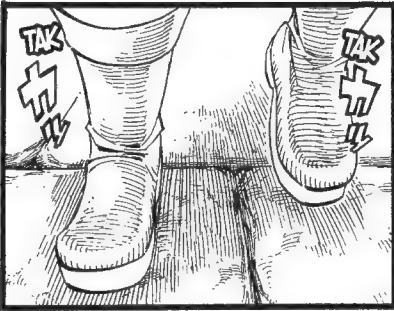
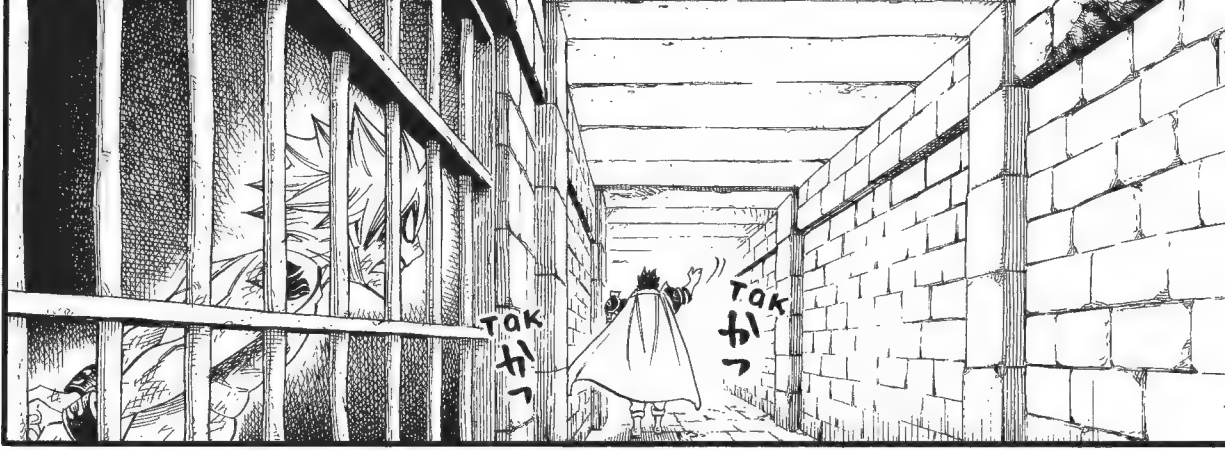


I *told* you
not to look
this way!!



It's
you!!







I'm using my
Super Archive
magic to form
a real-time
link...

...and do a
search of the
wizards on the
continent.

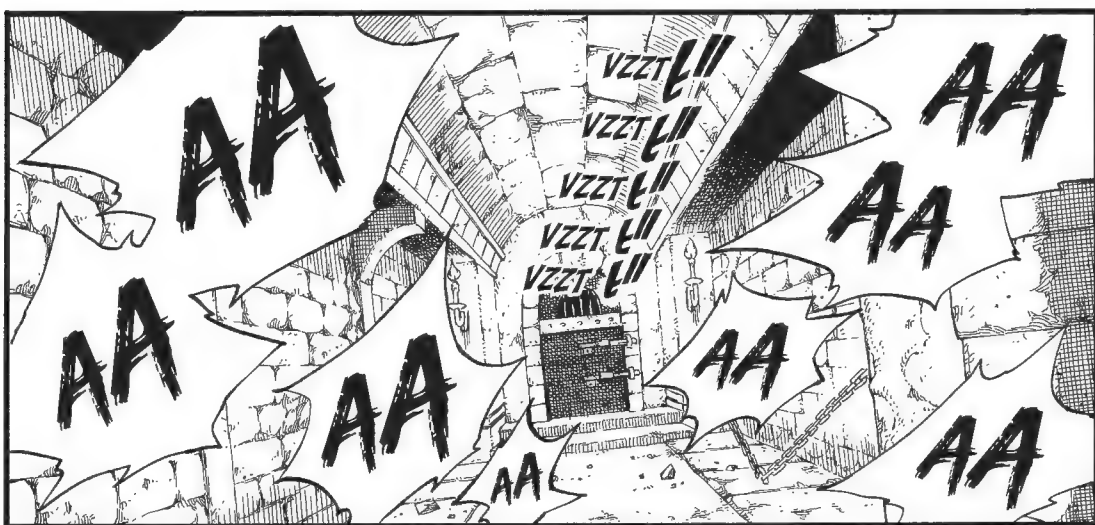
My magic
will find him!
Count on it!

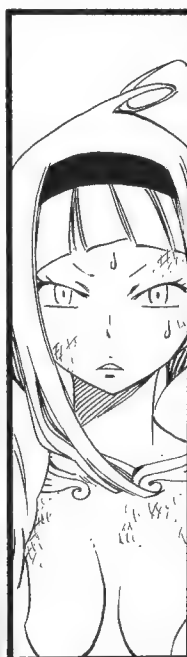
And how
much
power will
that give
us? How
much?

When Jellal is
dead, then we
can start up
Face!



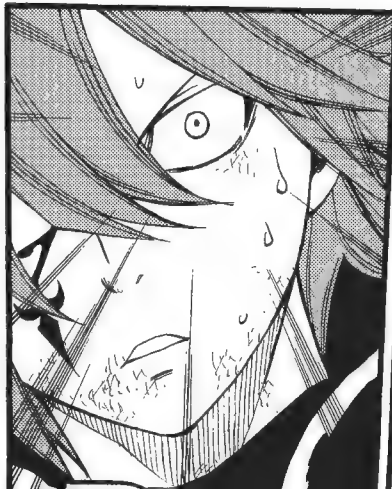
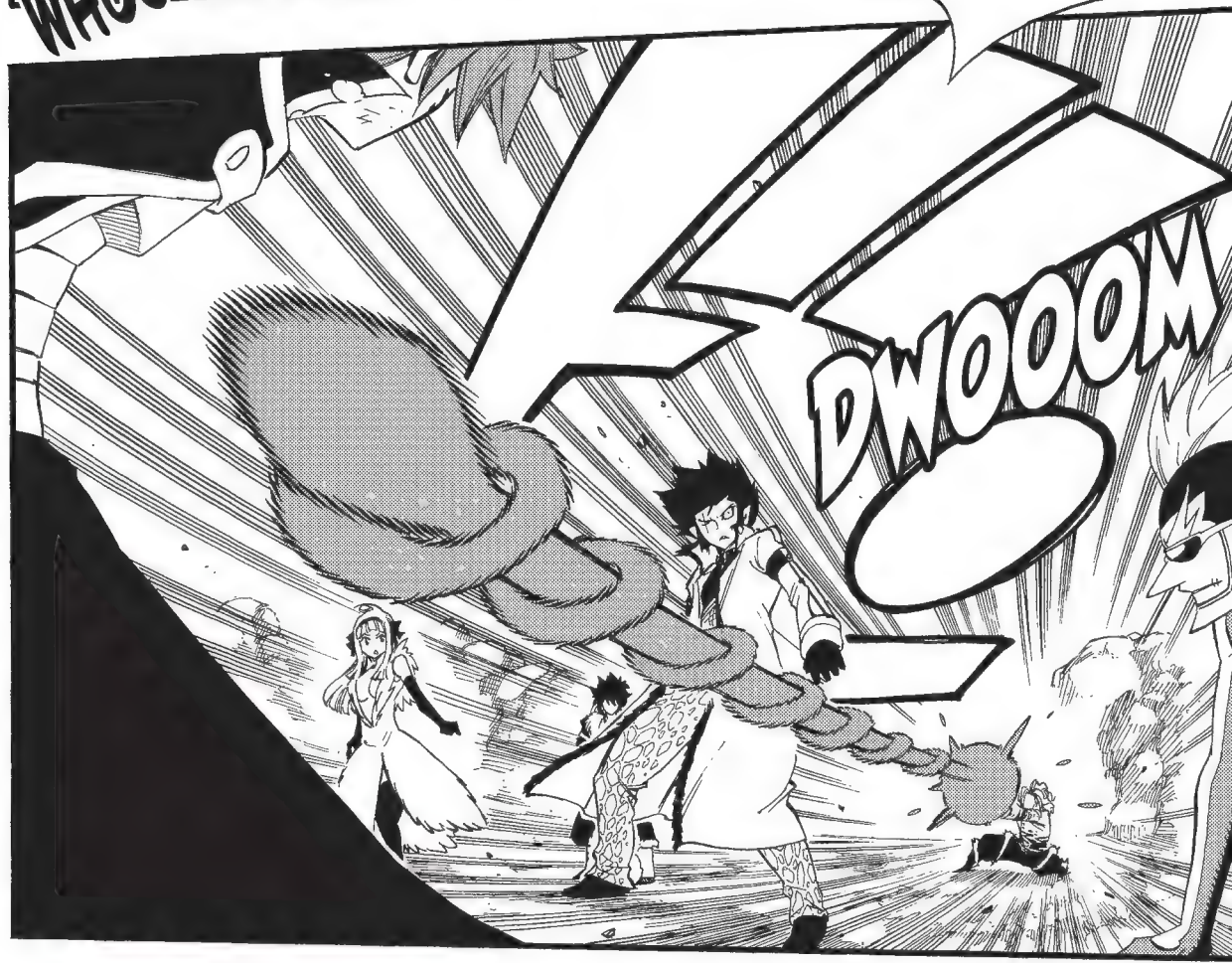








The one
to vanish
will be you,
Jellal!!!!



The
creep
is still
alive?!

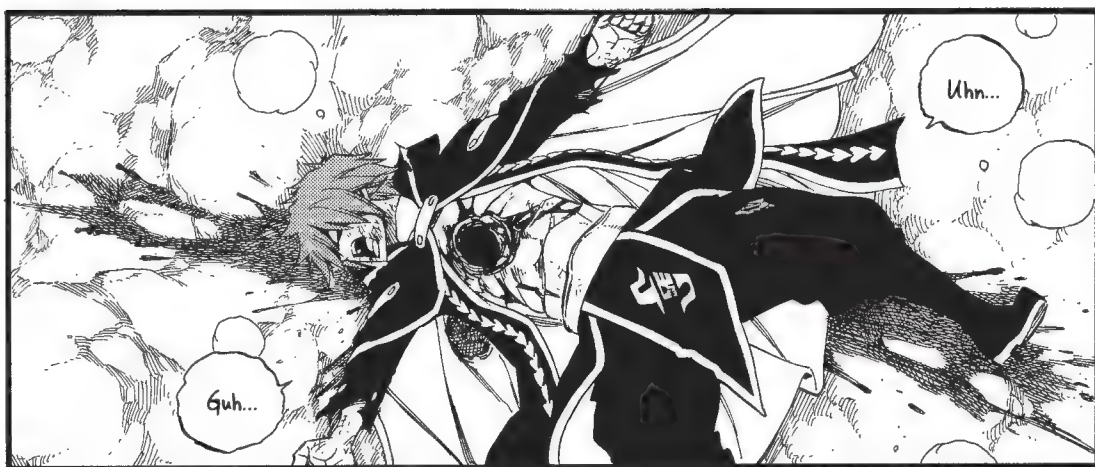


When did
his wards
get...



Zero?!







Never
!!!

It isn't
over
yet!



Merudy...
get out of
here...



No!! Jellal,
I can't just
leave you
here!!!



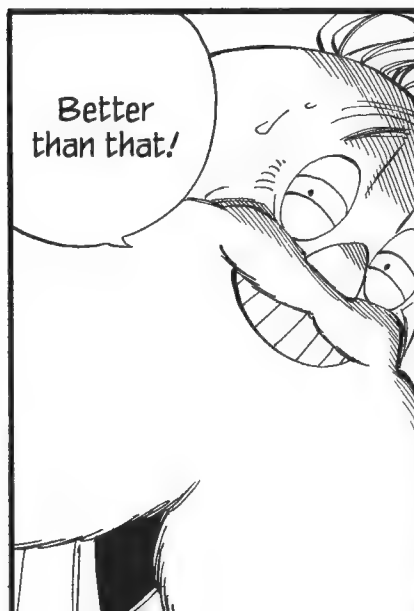
Run...



We
are...

Yeah...







FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 369: Where Prayers Go

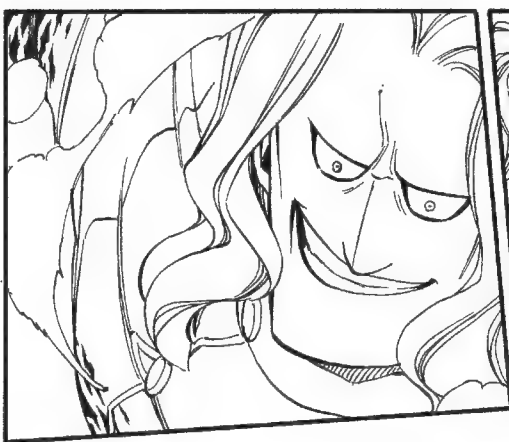
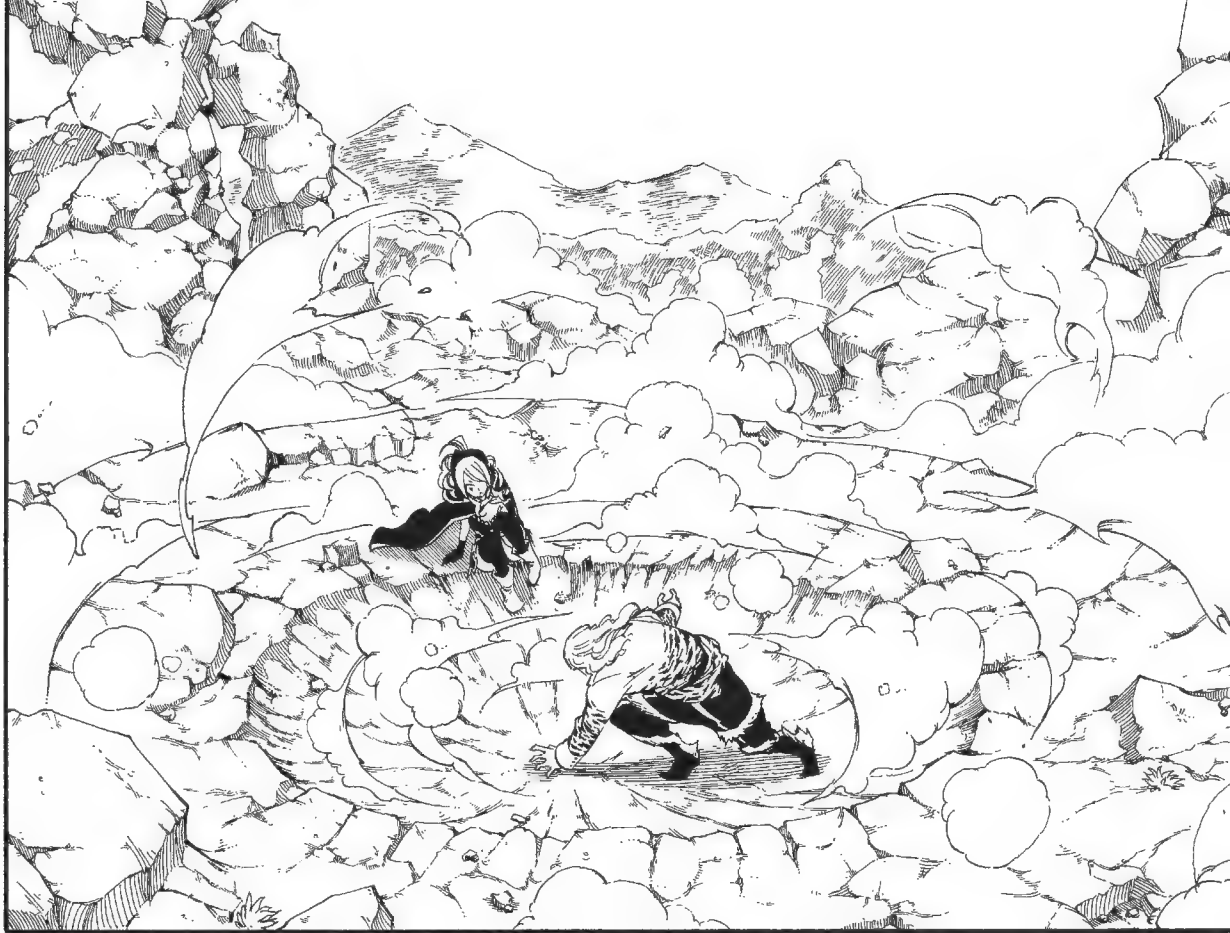


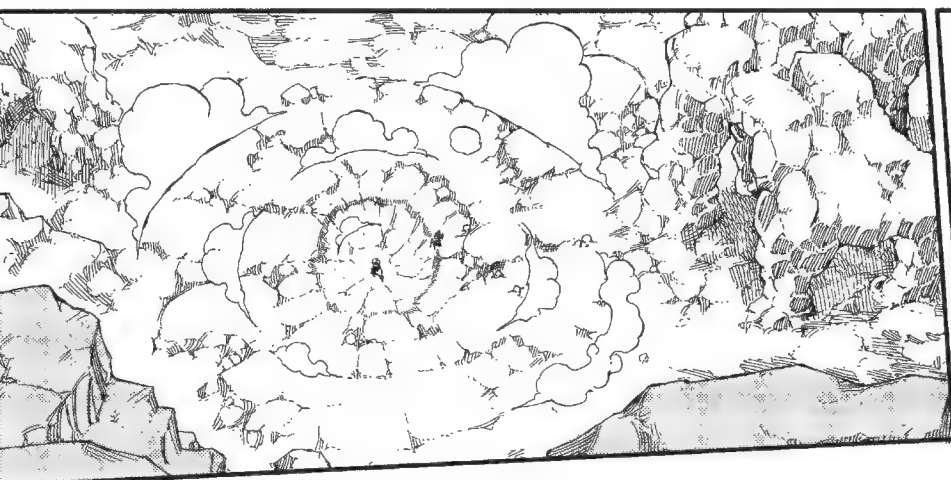
MERMAID HEEL	
Name: Lisie Law	Age: 24
Magic: Gravity Change	
Likes: Her guild	Dislikes: High heels
 	

Remarks

A plus-size young woman. The rest of her guild sees her as a maternal figure because of her outward appearance and calm demeanor. Outside the guild too, some think she's the motherly type, but she's unmarried and has no children.

With her Gravity Change magic, she can turn herself into a slim girl with the proportions of a model, but she likes her plump body as it is.





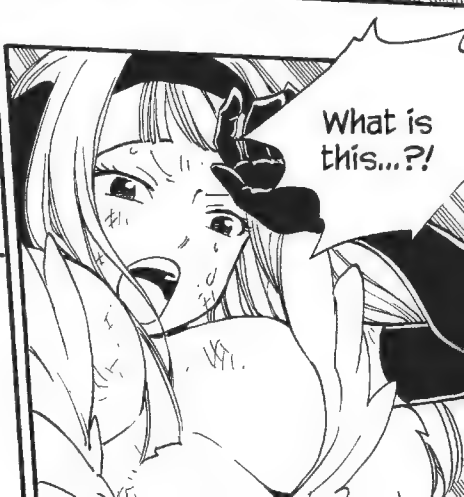
He wiped
him out of
existence...



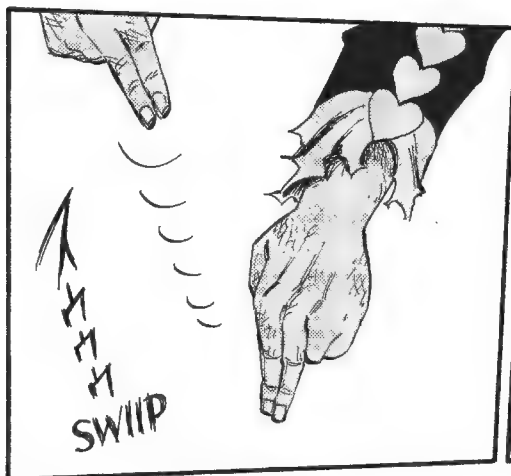
Ah
ha ha
ha ha
ha ha
ha!!











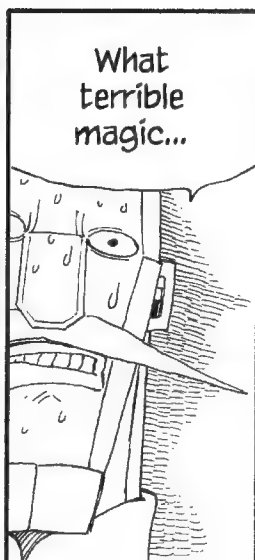




DO

KOOOON

SEMA!





No.

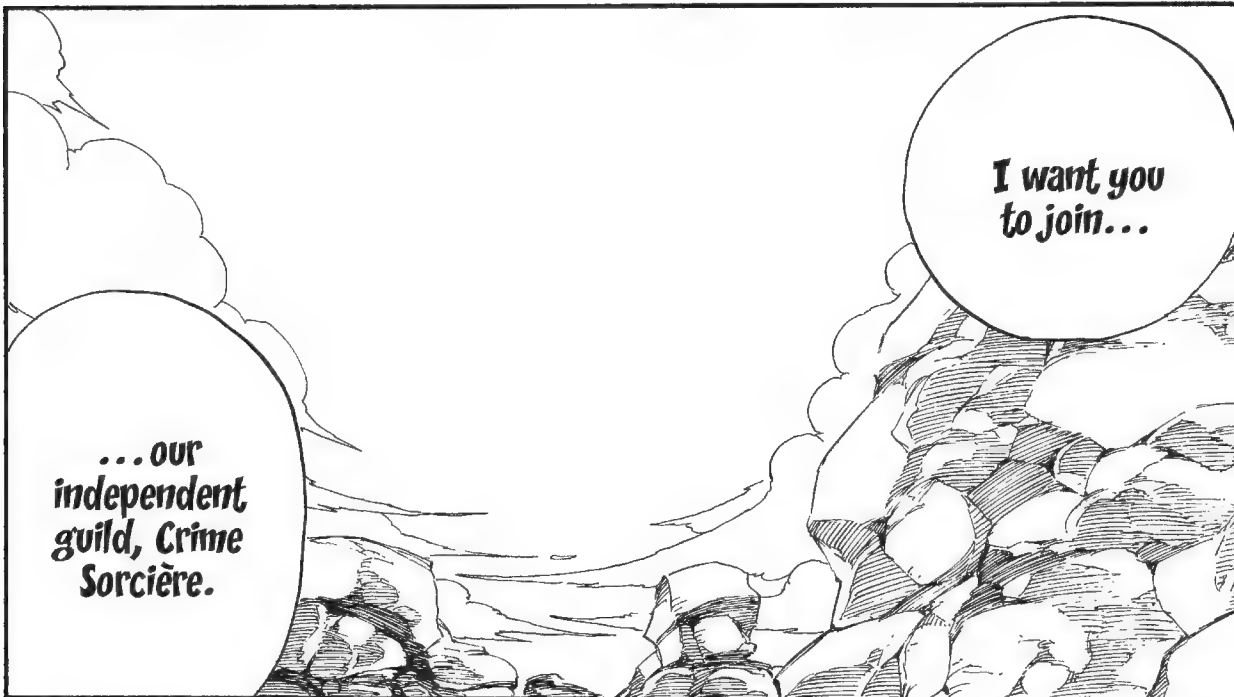


Then
you're...

...going
to throw
us back
in jail...?



I'm not
going to
do that.



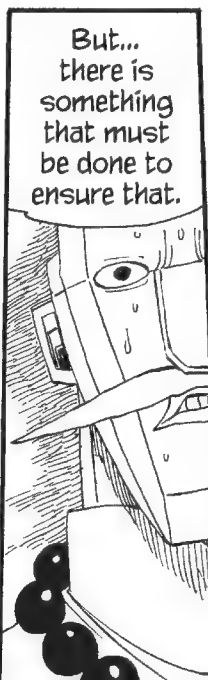
...our
independent
guild, *Crime
Sorcière*.

I want you
to join...



We both
have the
same enemy
to fight.

CRIMP



But...
there is
something
that must
be done to
ensure that.




I'll make
sure your
prayers are
fulfilled.

That is a
promise.

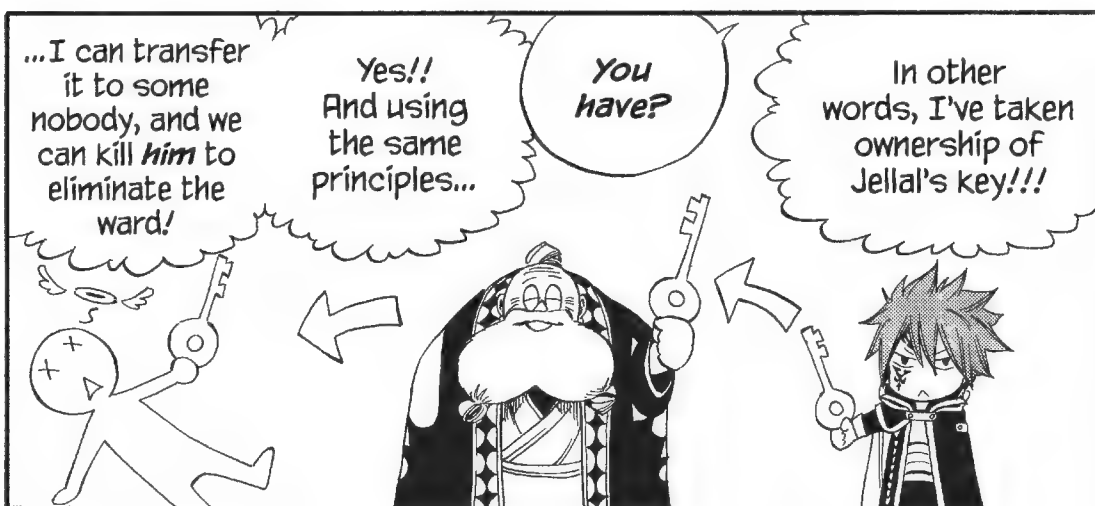


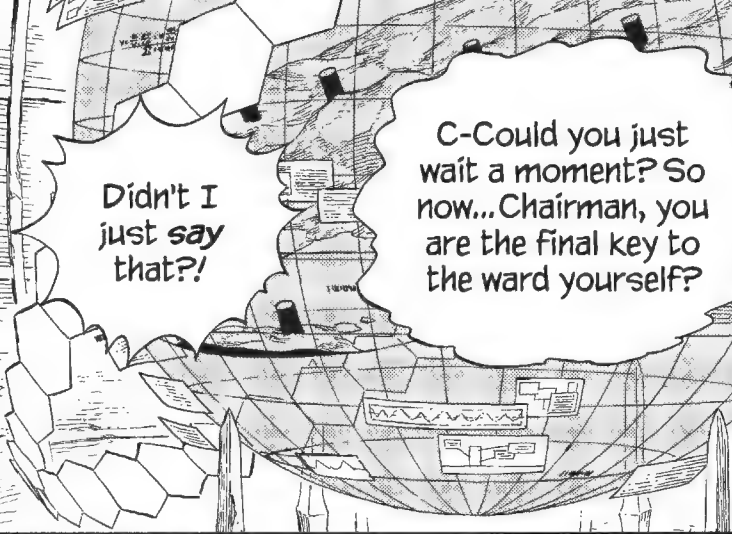
Eh?





**I want us to
act together
to take down
Zeref!**





Didn't I just say that?!

C-Could you just wait a moment? So now... Chairman, you are the final key to the ward yourself?



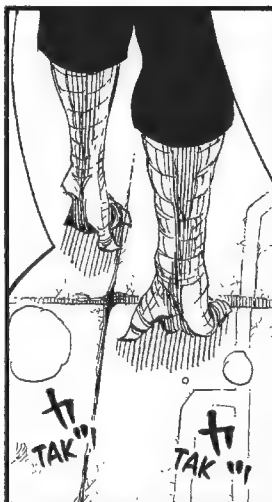
It doesn't matter who!!! We could use one of those fairies we caught!!

Some nobody?



Now we can take down the wards around Face!!!!
The world is ours!!!!

I never even dreamed this could be done... My Super Archive magic is stupendous, if I do say so myself !!!



I wonder if that's true.



Proof of how powerful I am!

It's hard to believe a key guarded by such stringent security could be hijacked so easily!



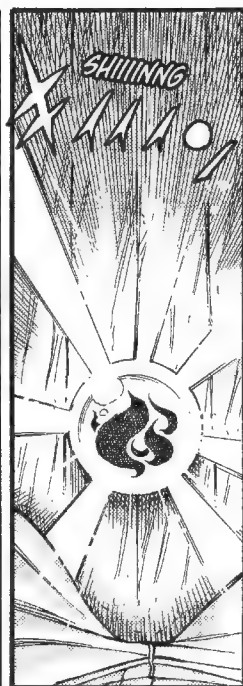


We're
shaking
like crazy
...

What's
that?!



Oh, dear.
Oh, dear.



TO BE CONTINUED...

あとがき

Afterword

This time, because of the limitations of the number of pages allowed in the book, there are hardly any bonus pages. I'm sorry! Over and above that, I'm far more busy than I would have believed! Even apart from drawing a weekly manga, I've got to solve problem after problem... Hyaaahh!! But on a personal note, I'm really into the Tartaros Arc this time, and I'm getting all sorts of ideas piling on top of each other. There are some real surprising plot twists coming up, so be sure to look for them!

Now I think I've written about this somewhere before, but I'm not doing any of the drawing for the anime. There are a lot of animators putting in tons of hours and sweat to make it, and I really respect the work they're doing. They're taking pictures I only drew once and making them move, drawing picture after picture, and adding color until you get the feeling that the characters are alive! It's really incredible!

For that reason, instead of sending your impressions of the anime to the Magazine editorial department or through Twitter to myself, if you could send those impressions directly to the anime studio, I think that will help to cheer up and inspire all the the guys doing so much work! Please consider that, okay?

フェアリーテイル 43

FAIRY TAIL 43

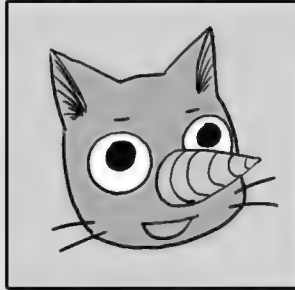


真島ヒロ HIROSHIMA



I CAN HEAR IT...
I CAN HEAR THE
VOICE OF A MAN WHO
LOST A COVER, AND
IT'S CRYING...

FROM HIRO NASHIMA



I went to the Fairy Tail event called the Dragon King Festival 2014. I'm really not good at standing in front of crowds, but since the anime was starting up again after a year, I took part in the event. Since I was able to talk to the fans directly, I thought the event was incredibly fun! I hope there's a Dragon King Festival 2015!

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 38, Magical Pulse Bomb

This is probably based on the Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) that is said to occur when a nuclear device is activated. These have been later developed into “pulse weapons” that may use nuclear or non-nuclear methods of generating the pulse. Although a real pulse may cause damage aside from shutting down electronic devices (and in reality, not necessarily all electronic devices are affected), in fiction the pulse simply shuts down all electric and electronic devices for a period of time (for example, as used in the movie *Ocean's Eleven*) causing no other damage.

Page 77, New Years

There are several common trappings of Japanese New Year's celebrations on this page. The three bamboo stalks with a garland of pine is usually a decoration placed outside one's front door, but at times it is placed as an interior decoration. Similarly, the gift tray to the left of the bamboo decoration has a traditional set of three *mochi* (rice paste) cakes topped by a mandarin orange. The *mochi* decoration is place just inside the entrance. The folding screen and *tatami* mats (rush mats) are not especially decorative, but rather found in most traditional Japanese homes. Natsu, Master Makarov, Happy, Mirajane, Wendy, and Lucy are all wearing traditional Japanese clothes commonly worn on a first visit to a temple or shrine during New Year's (although normal clothes are perfectly acceptable).



Page 151, Oden

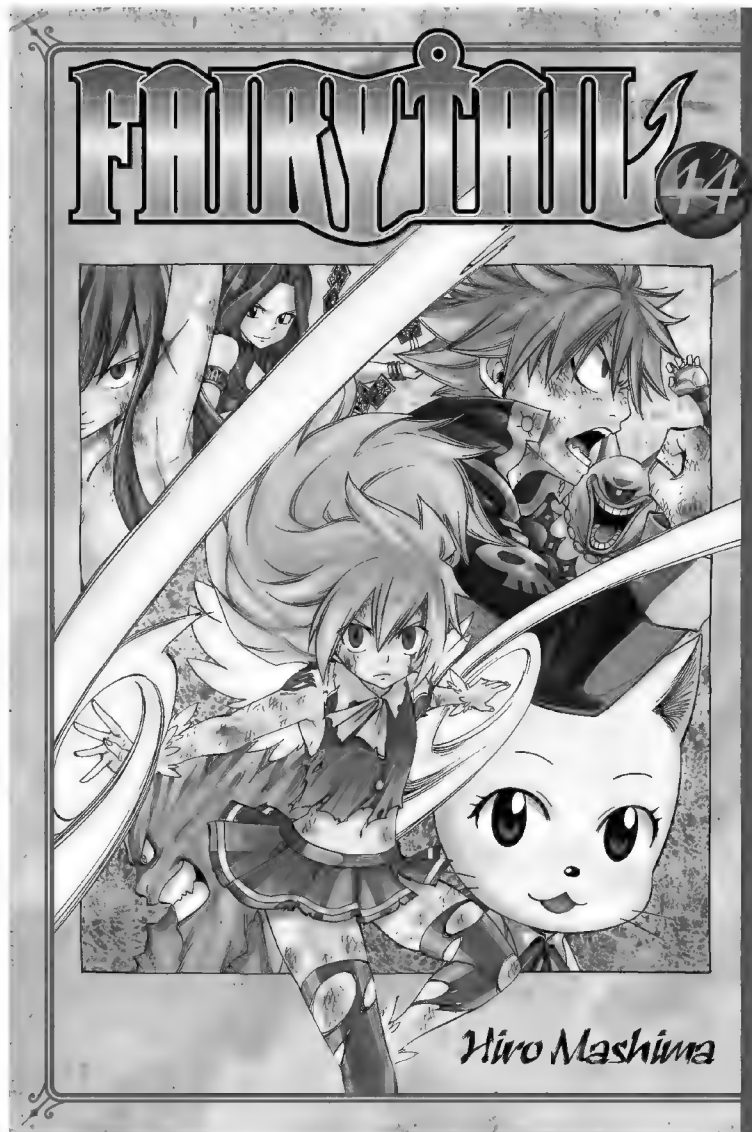
An inexpensive stew, subtly flavored. It can feature fish, tofu, squid, octopus, *mochi* (rice paste), seaweed, chicken, dumplings, eggs, radishes, potatoes, and other meats, vegetables, and concoctions. Although it is a stew, the elements (meat and veggies) are usually skewered on kabob-like sticks for easy access. Oden is served in restaurants, but more commonly in convenience stores and sidewalk stalls.

Page 151, Nattô

As mentioned in the notes for Volume 8, nattô is a strong-smelling fermented soybean dish in which beans are connected by a viscous, stringy fluid. The dish is very nutritious, and it contains nattokinase, a fibrinolytic enzyme which is said to prevent clotting in the arteries. Still, nattô has a reputation for being loved by Japanese and hated by foreigners (although there are foreign nattô lovers and Japanese detractors).

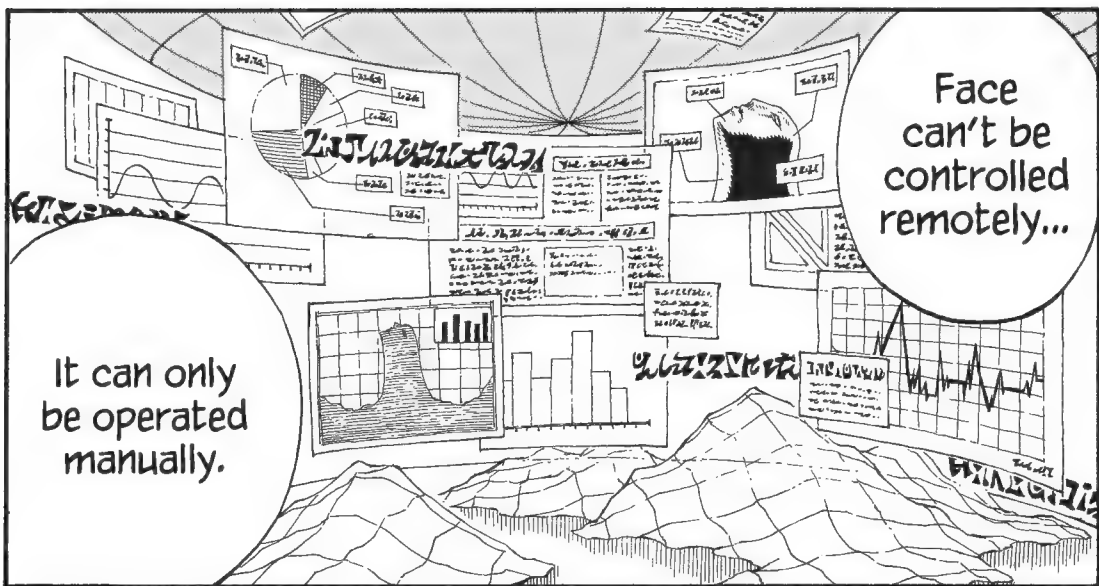
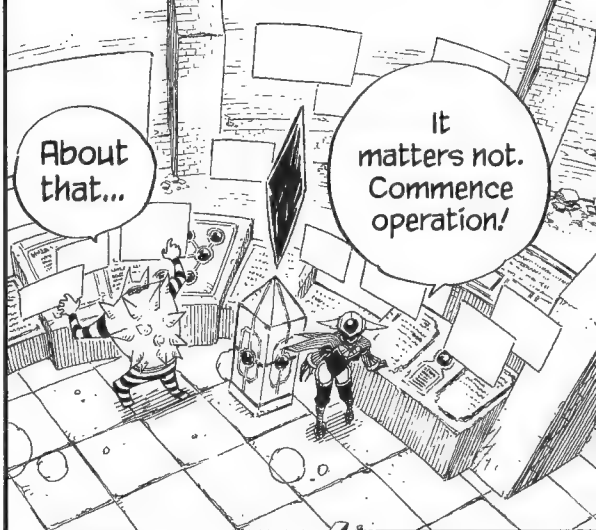
Preview of *Fairy Tail*, volume 44

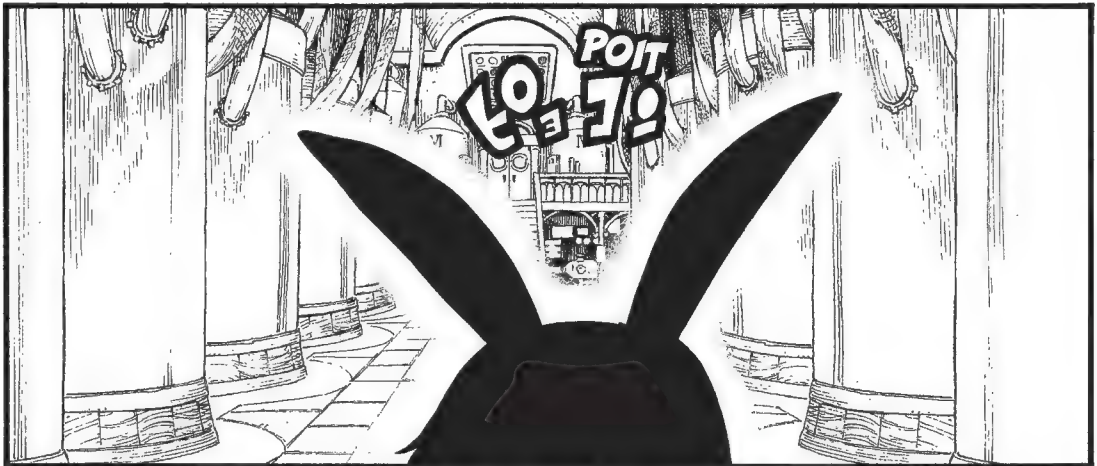
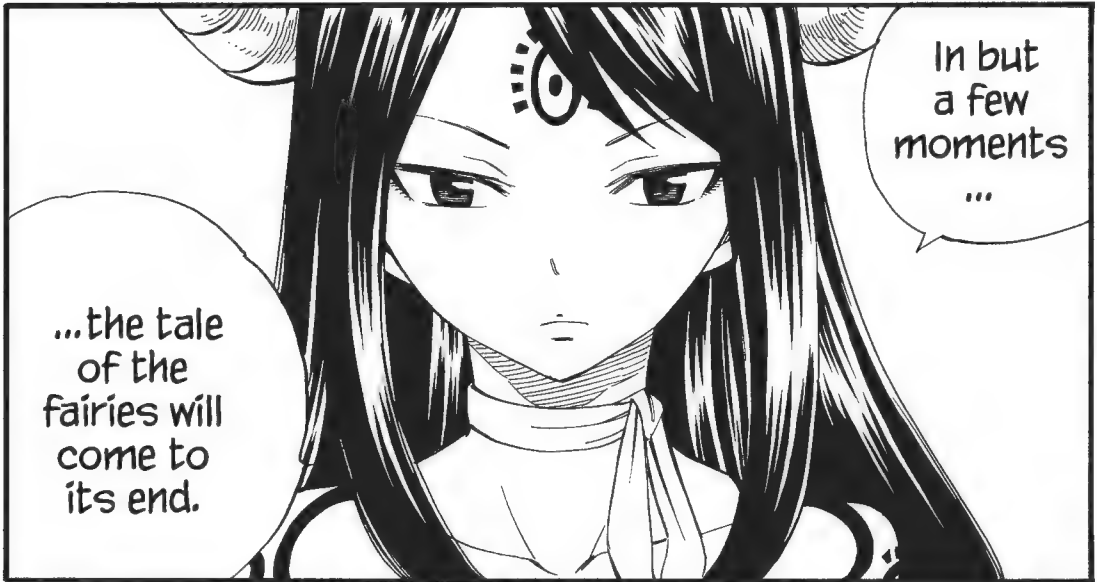
We're pleased to present you with a preview from *Fairy Tail*, volume 44, now available digitally from Kodansha Comics. Check our Web site (www.kodanshacomics.com) for details!



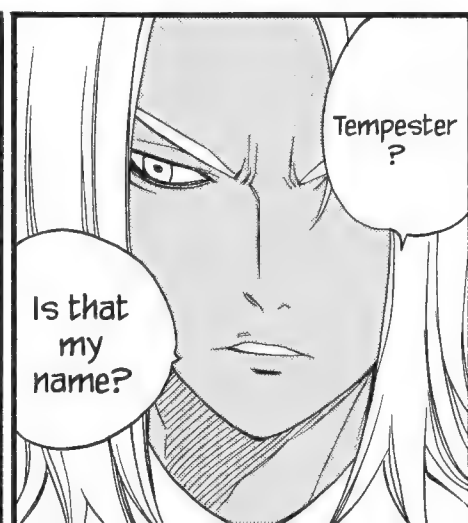
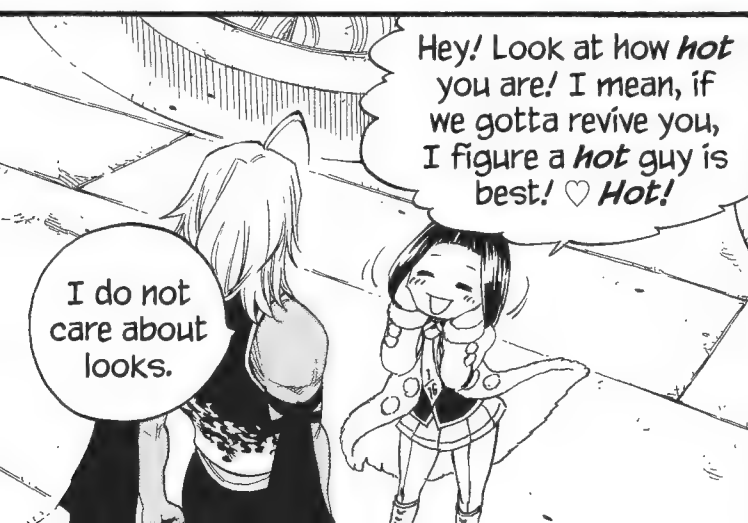


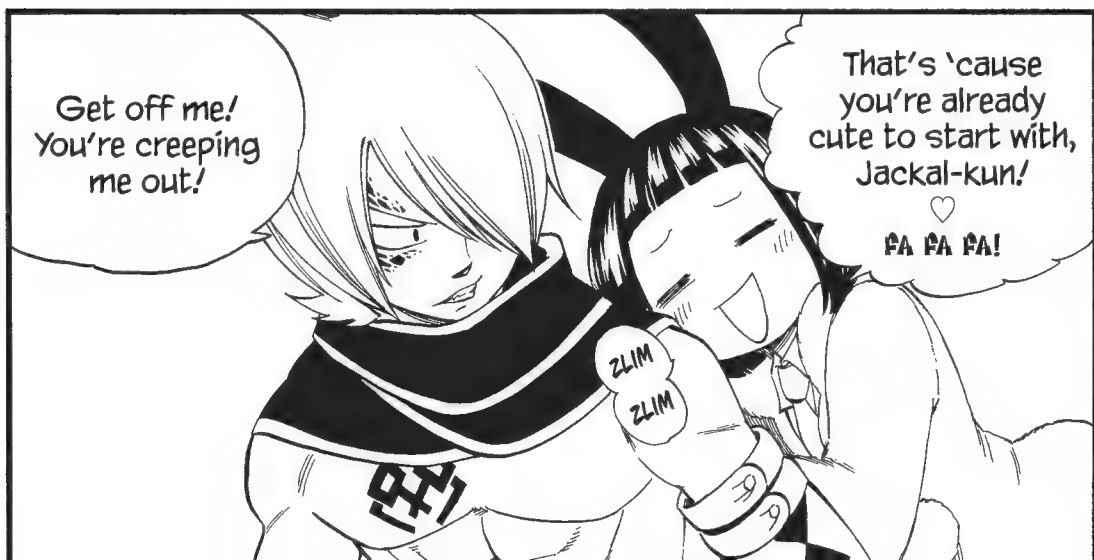


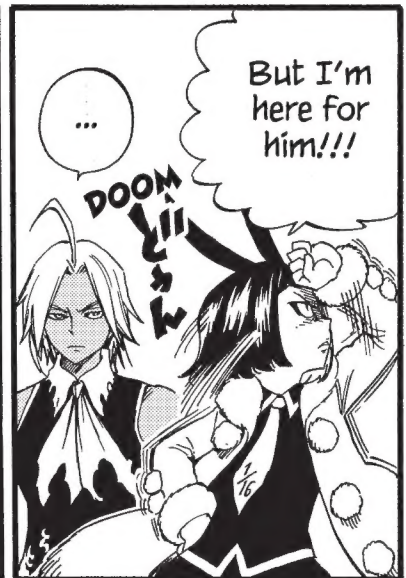
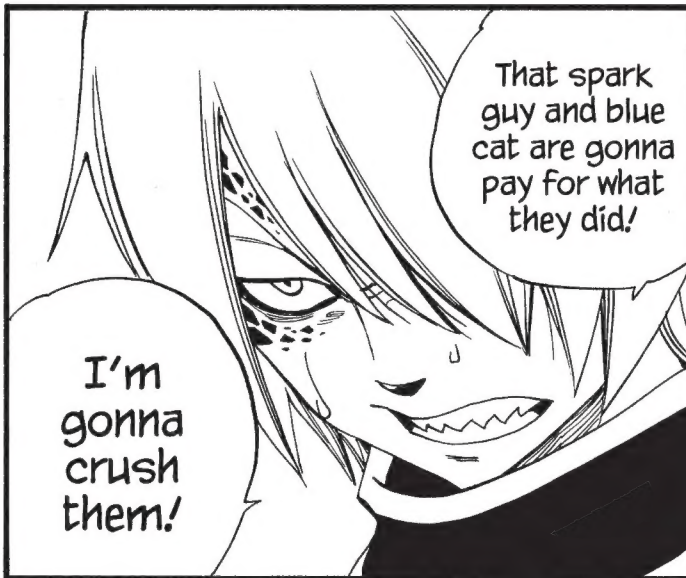
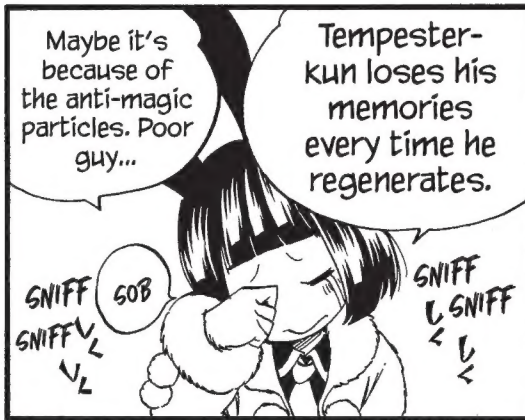















So this is
a demon's
power...?

I feel it
surging
within
me...

Fairy Tail volume 43 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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TOMARE!



You're going the wrong way!

Manga is a completely different
type of reading experience.

To start at the *beginning*,
go to the *end*!

That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way—from right to left, exactly the *opposite* of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: Just go to the other end of the book and read each page—and each panel—from right side to left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be!